

TWIN SPICA

Kou Yaginuma

7



TWIN SPICA

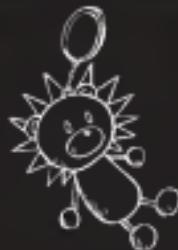
7

Kou Yaginuma



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MISSION:30













ALL THE
TOWNS-
PEOPLE
BRING
CANDLES
AND GATHER
BEFORE THIS
MEMORIAL.



BUT THE
MEMORIAL
LOOKED
LIKE A
ROCKET ON
ITS WAY
TO HEAVEN.

WHEN I
WAS A KID
I DIDN'T
REALLY
UNDERSTAND
WHAT THAT
MEANT,



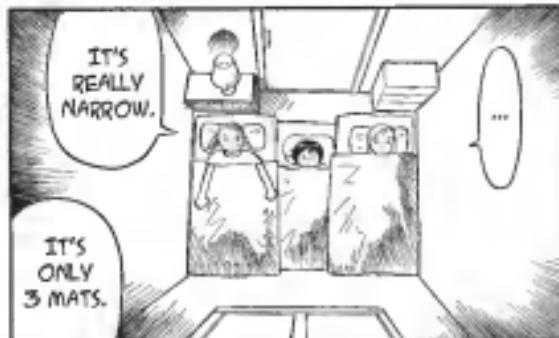






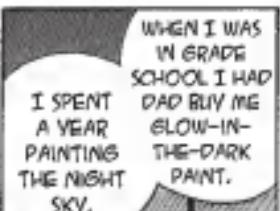


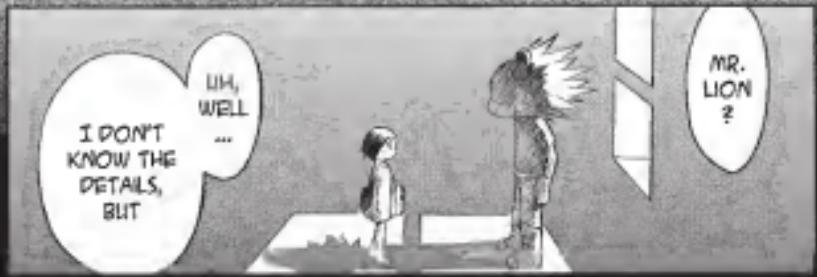


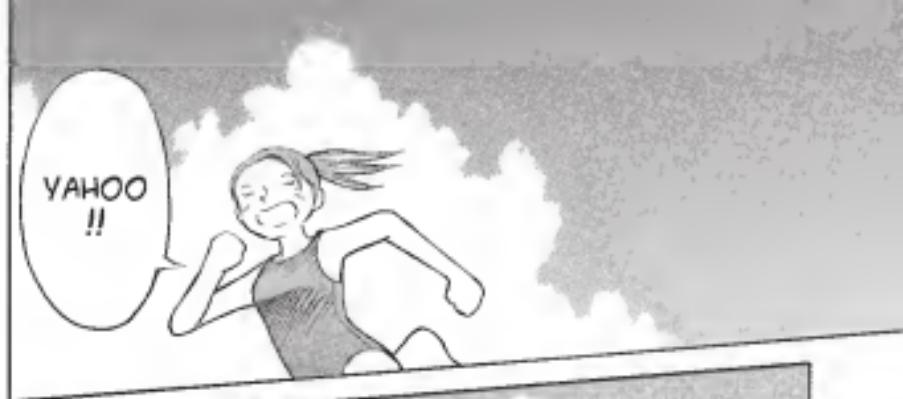


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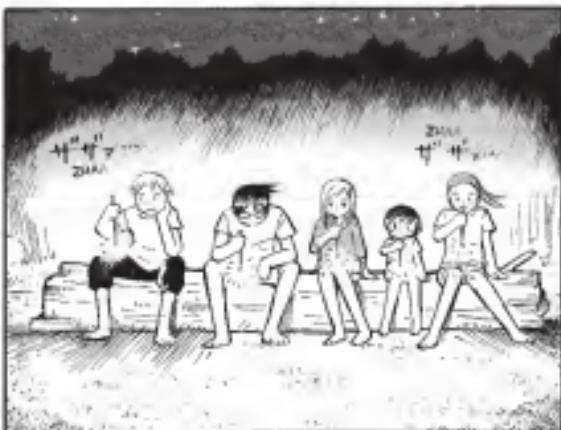










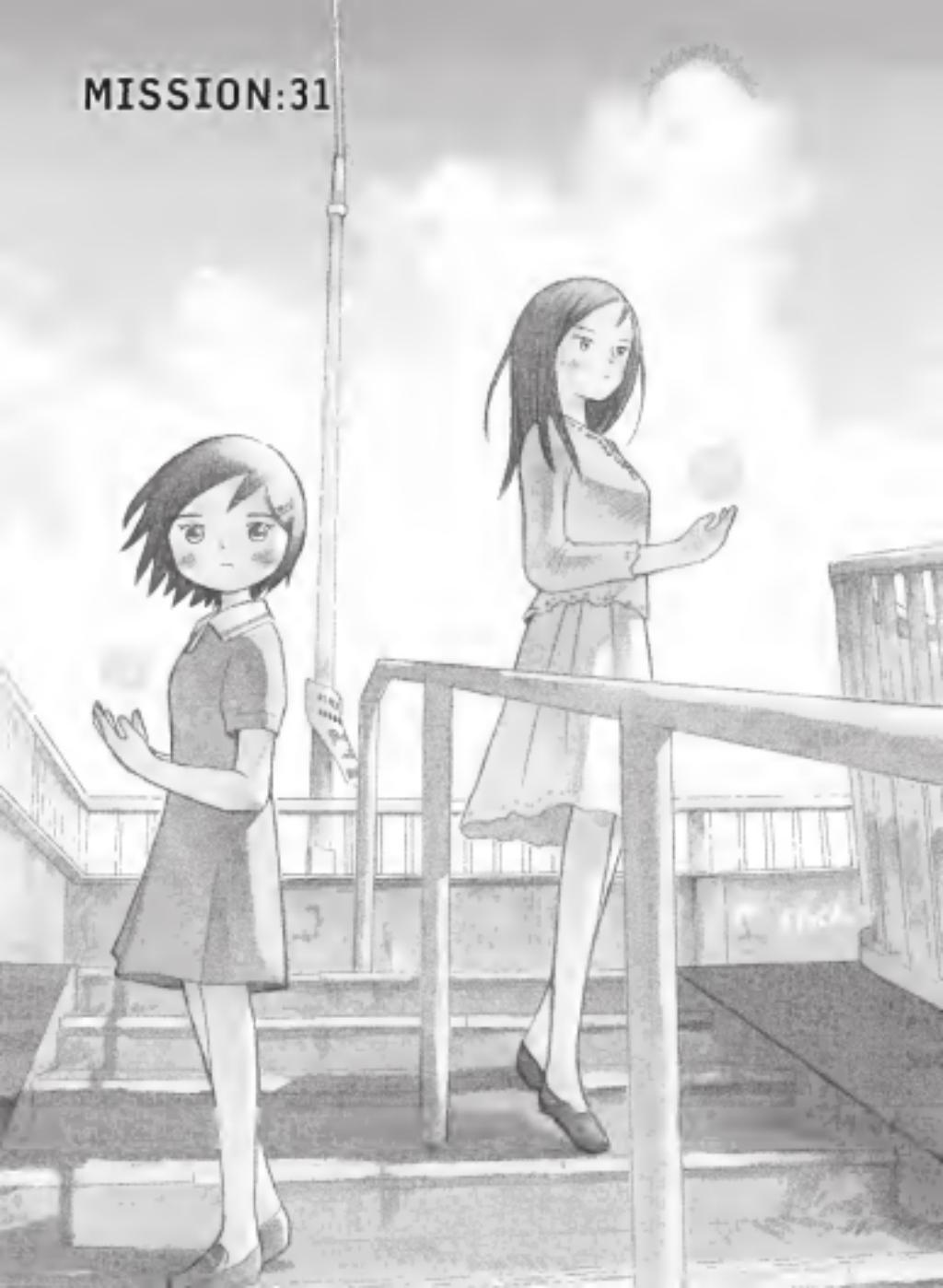








MISSION:31







ALWAYS
SMILES
SO
SADLY.

I WONDER
WHY
MARIKA



WHAT DID
HE MEAN,
THERE ARE
TWO OF
HER?

I WONDER
WHAT
BURDEN
SHE'S
CARRYING.



I
THOUGHT
IT WAS A
GOOD
CHANCE.

PLUS,
SHE
NEVER
TALKS
ABOUT
HER-
SELF.

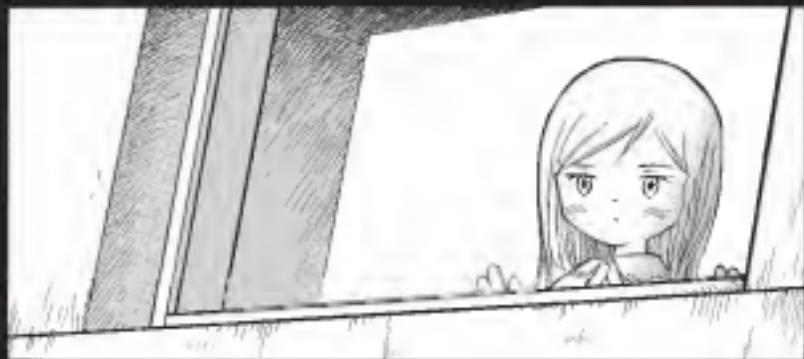


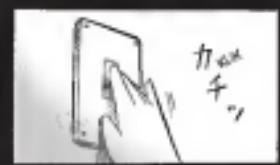
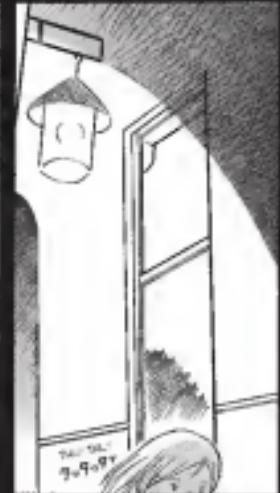
HEY!
I JUST
THOUGHT
IT'D BE
FUN!

YOU GOT
TOO
WORKED
UP
MAKING
PEOPLE
TELL THEIR
SECRETS.



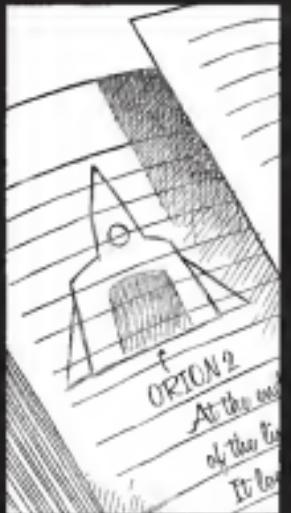




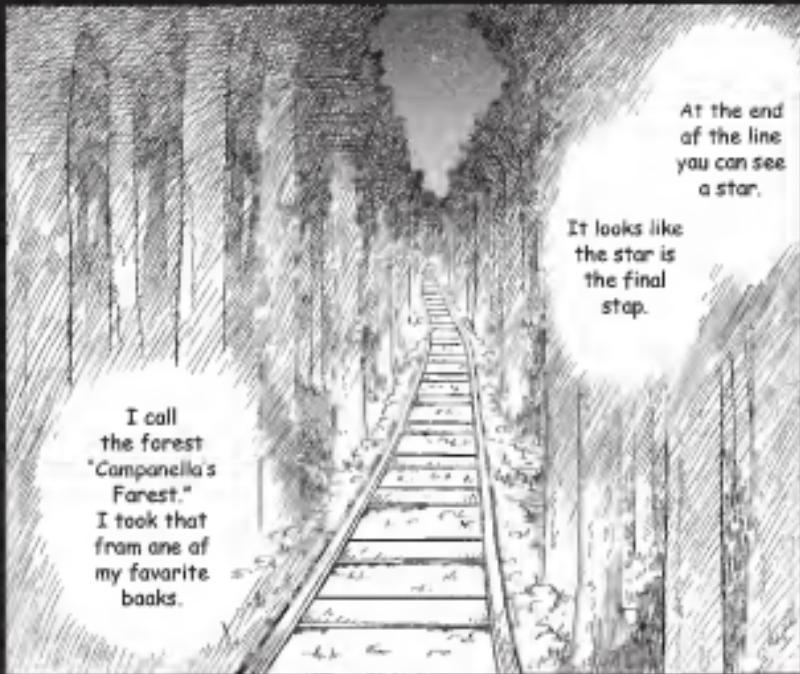








That was in
Yuiyahama
but I want
to go again



How far
must I walk
to get close
to that
star?

My friend
who brought
me there
taught me
how to find
Orion...

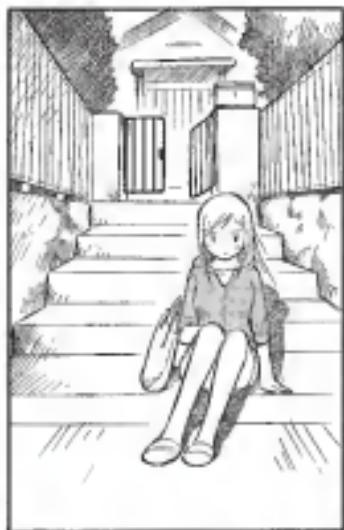
If I could walk
all the way down
those tracks,
would I get
any closer
to that star?

I want to
get better
and
run away
from here.

than
I am now
?

Would
I get
any
closer



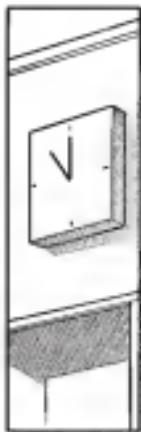


IT'S NOT
LIKE
IT'LL MAKE
THIS PAIN
GO AWAY.

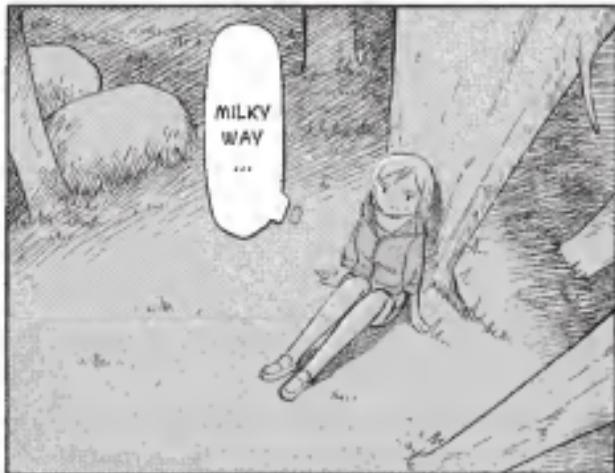












YOU CAN
EVEN SEE
THE MILKY
WAY!

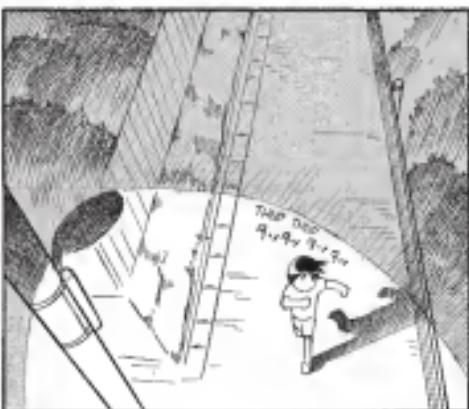
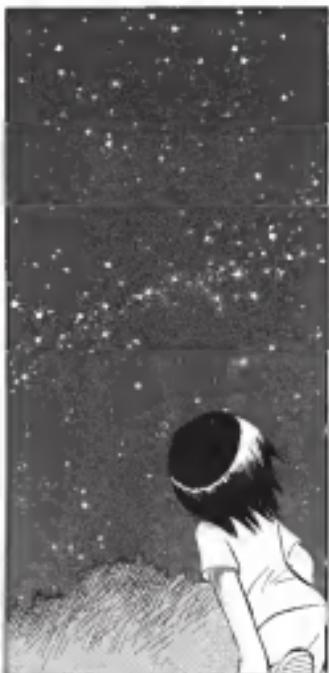
SOME DAY
I WANT TO
SHOW YOU
THE NIGHT SKY
IN YUSHAHAMA.



USED TO
BEING
ALONE.

I
THOUGHT
I WAS









THE NAME
OF THAT
SECRET
ROCKET

I WONDER
HOW SHE
KNEW



MAYBE
SHE'S
THERE

IF THERE'S
ANOTHER
MARKA
I DON'T
KNOW.

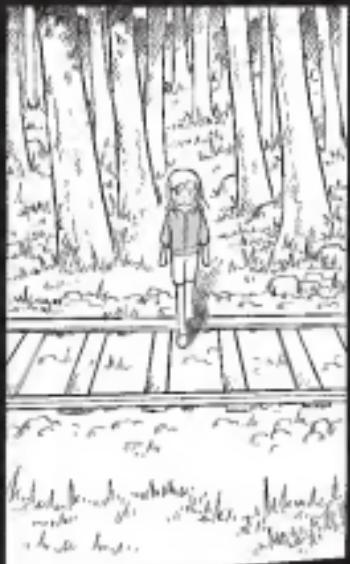
BUT
MR. LION SAID
HE SAW
HER IN
YUIGAHAMA.

SHE SAID
SHE'D
NEVER
LEFT THAT
MANSION
IN
TOKYO.



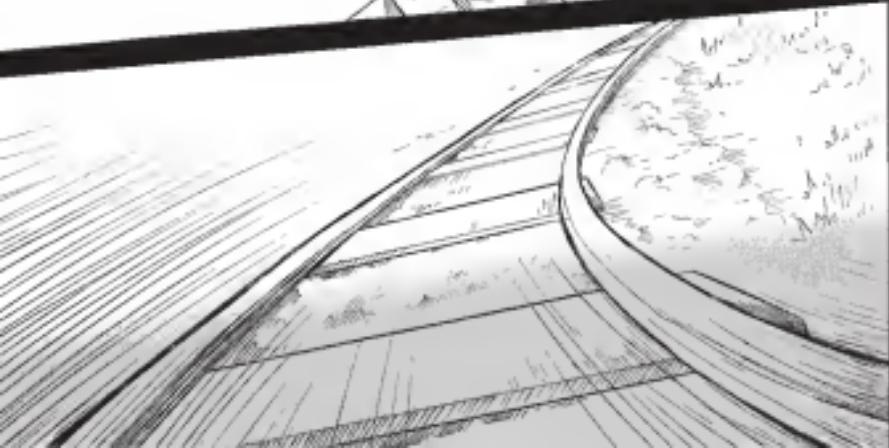


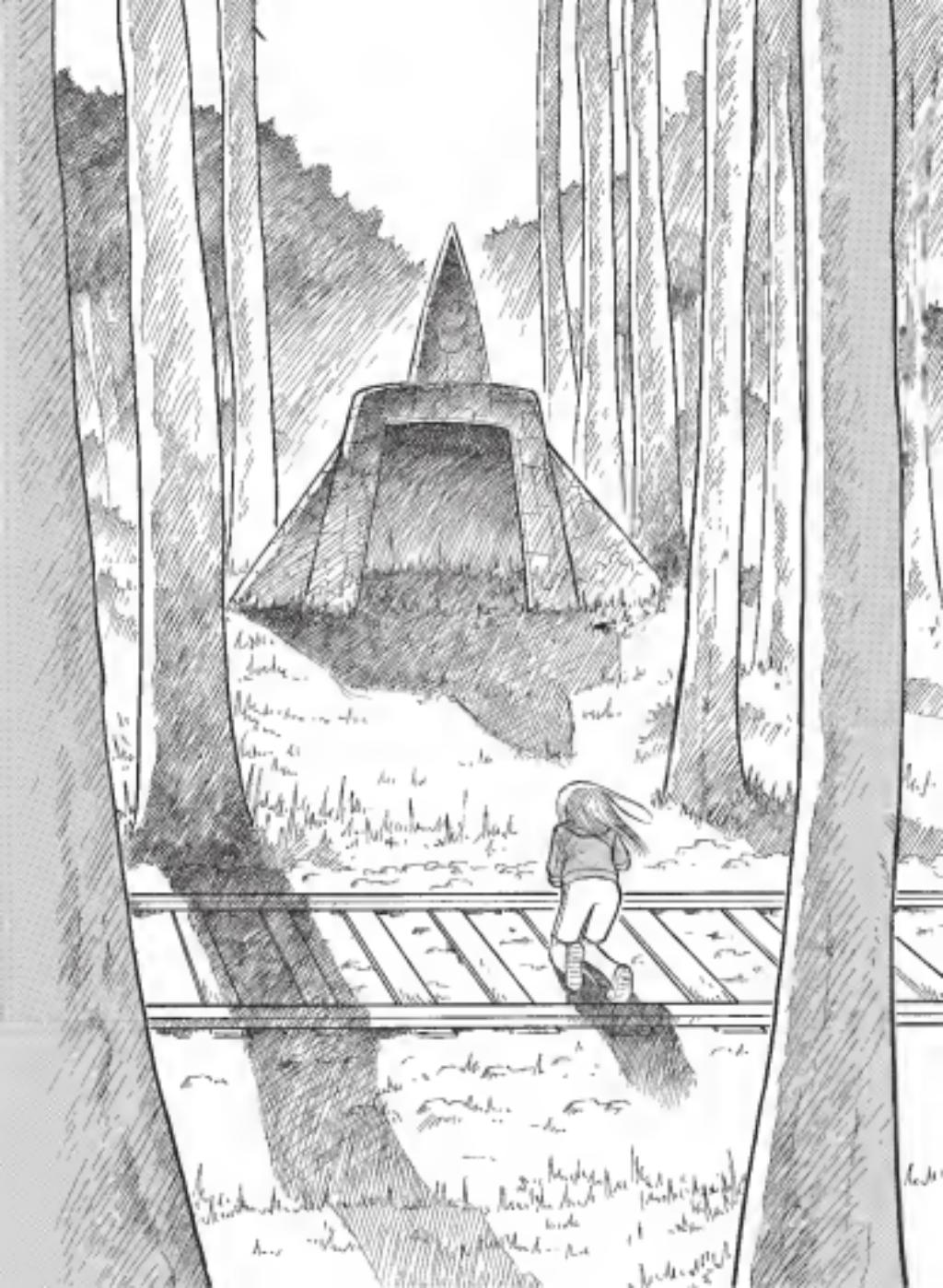




SO WHY
DOES
MY CHEST
FEEL
TIGHT?

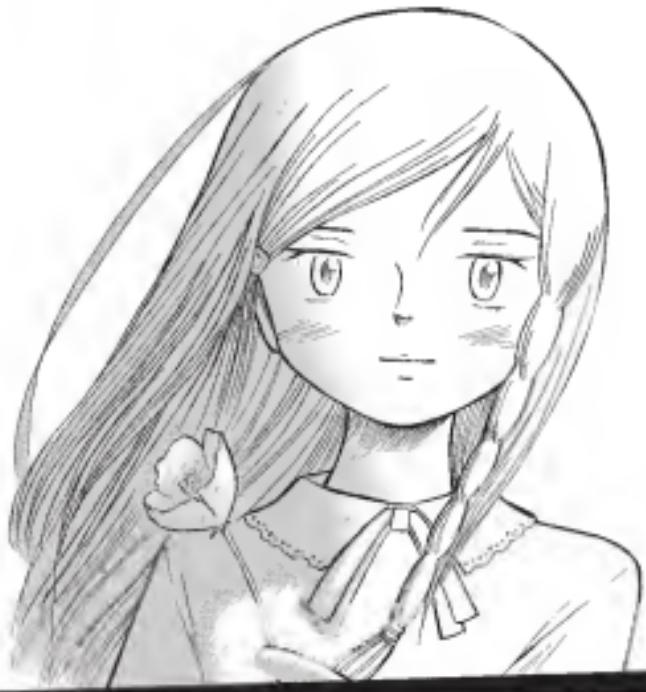
IT'S
MY FIRST
TIME
HERE,







May... Let's go back
to the old days...
and remember
the good times



HOW
FAR

HOW
FAR

MUST I
WALK

TOUCH...

TO GET
CLOSE TO
THAT
STAR?

TOUCH
TOUCH

TOUCH

CAN I
CALL YOU
MARIKA
?



MISSION:32





IT'S
ALMOST
NOON.
LET'S CALL
THE POLICE.

NOT
YET.

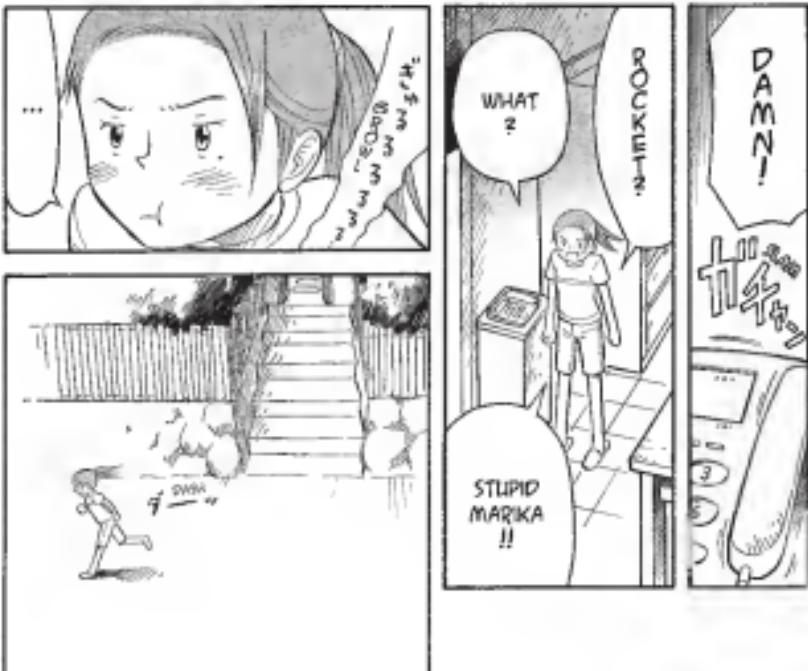


I HAVE
AN
IDEA.



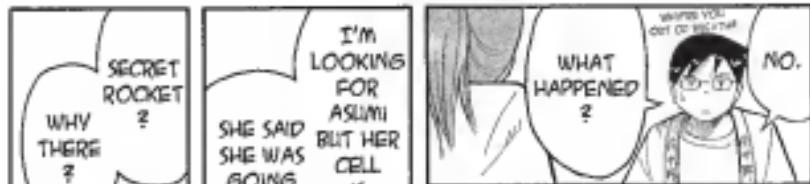
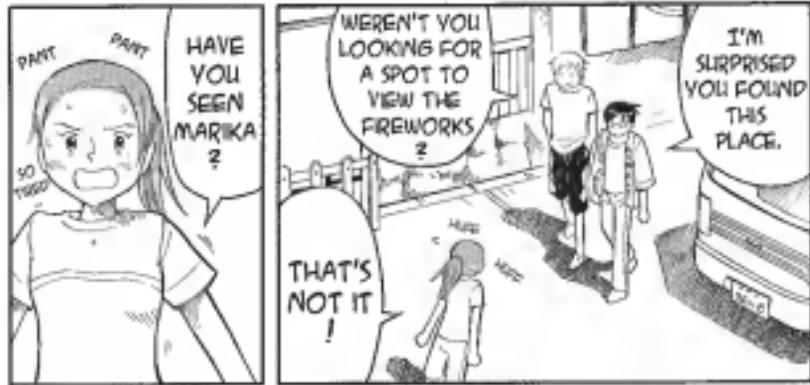
DID YOU
FIND HER
?

NO.





















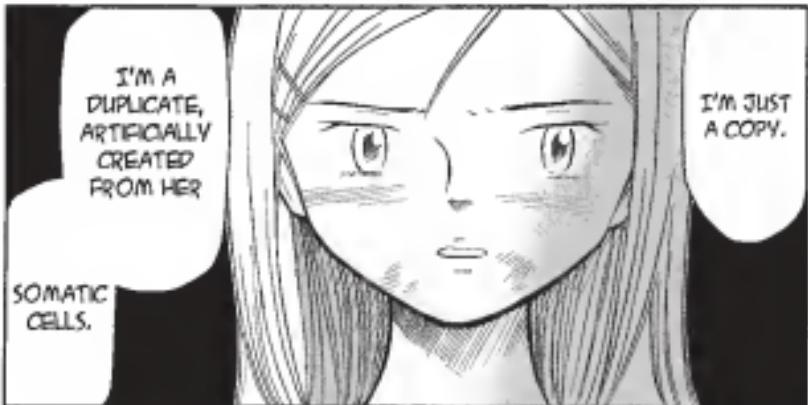
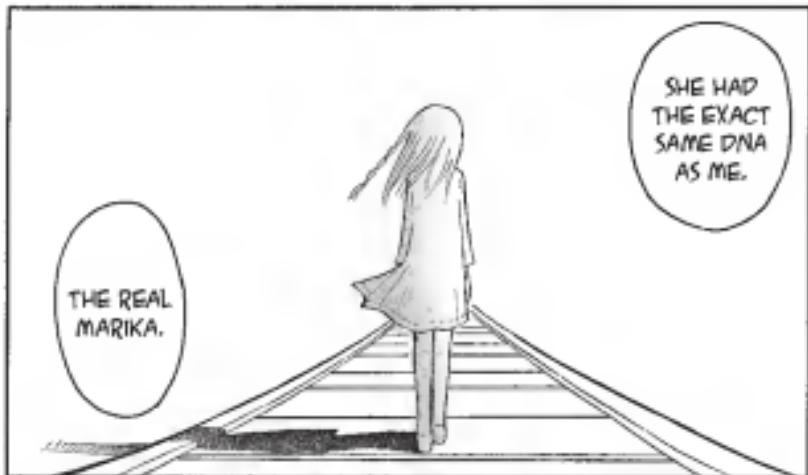


















CRANKY,
CHEEKY,
UNCUTE—
YOU PISS
ME OFF,

ALWAYS
SO COOL
AND CALM,

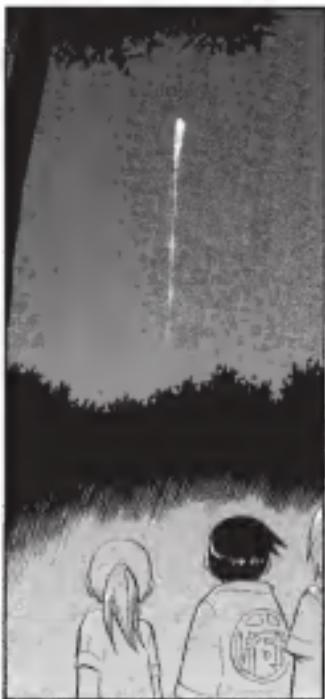
THAT I
WAITED
TO SHARE
IT WITH
IS...

BUT
THE ONE
I MADE
YAKISOBA
FOR

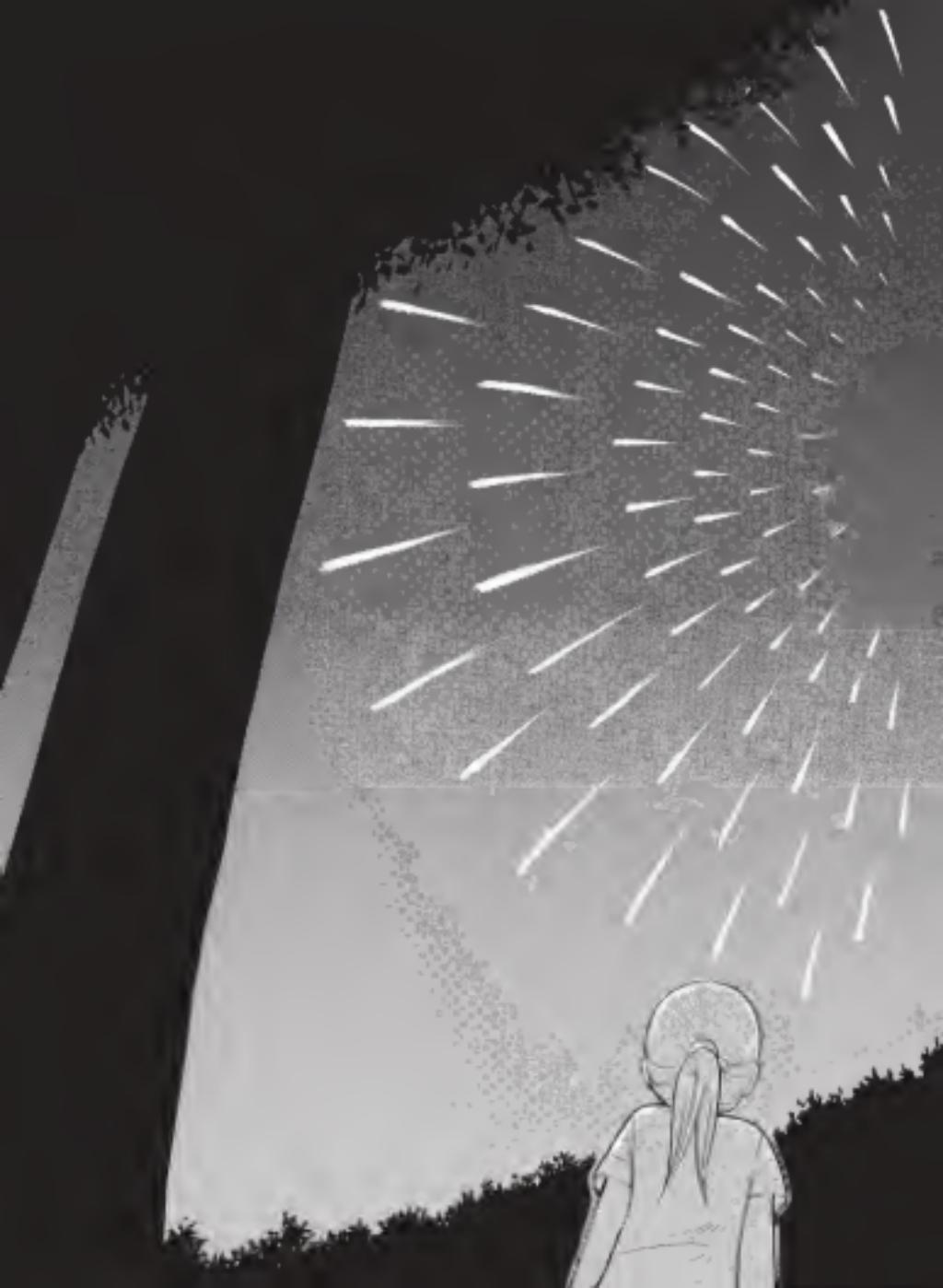
THE ONLY
MARIKA
IN FRONT
OF ME!

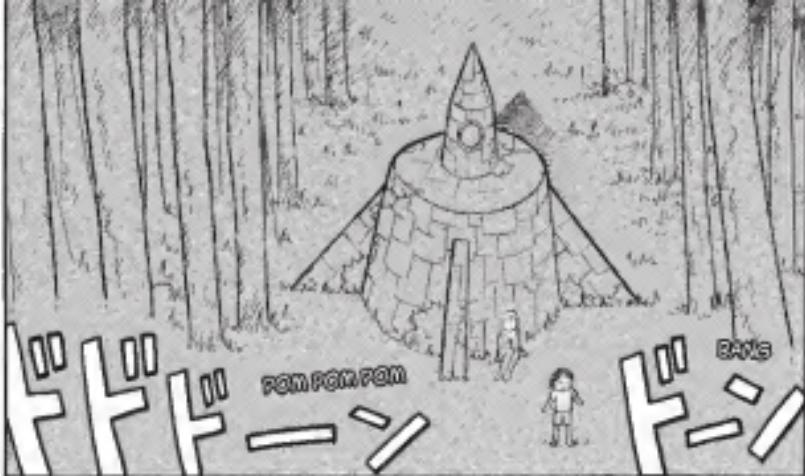














YES,
YOU CAN
WALK ON



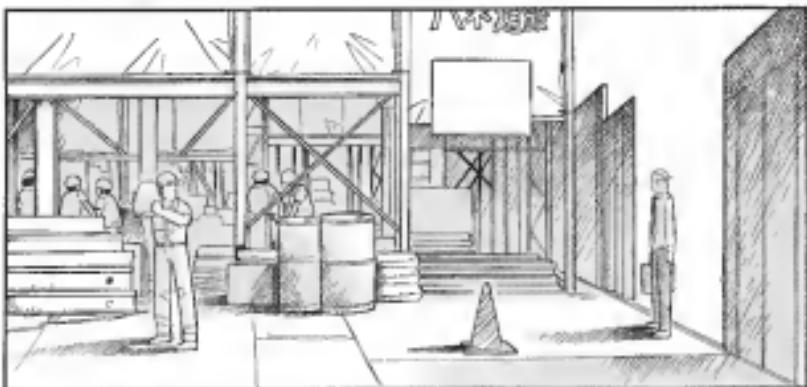
YOU'RE
LOOKING
AT THE
SAME
SKY.



AS
FAR
AS









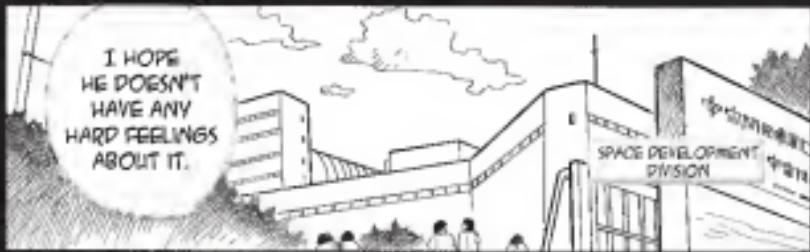
MISSION:33





SO
YOU'RE VOTING FOR SANO'S PLAN, RIGHT?





HE'S THE TYPE TO HOLD A GRUDGE.

HE CAN'T FEEL GOOD ABOUT THAT.

IT'S AS THOUGH HIS OWN LABMATE TRIPPED HIM UP.

LISTEN



KILLING SANO'S PROPOSAL

IT WAS YOUR INPUT TO THE DIRECTOR THAT ENDED UP

I SUPPORTED THE PLAN WITH THE FEWEST RISKS.

BUT IT'LL CARRY PEOPLE, NOT STUFF.

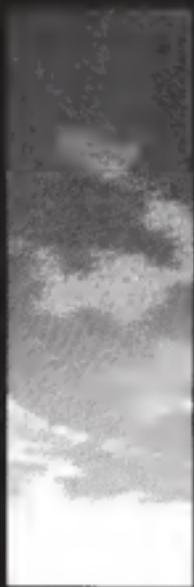
SANO WANTED TO KEEP IT VERY LIGHTWEIGHT AND LOW-COST, PUTTING MORE STRESS ON THE ENGINE.

I DIDN'T THINK SUCH THIN PIPES WOULD INSULATE ENOUGH.



SANO IS GOING TO BE REMOVED FROM THE LION PROJECT AFTER THIS.

THE CLEAN "LIQUID HYDROGEN ENGINE" IS CERTAINLY WHAT WE'VE DREAMT OF.







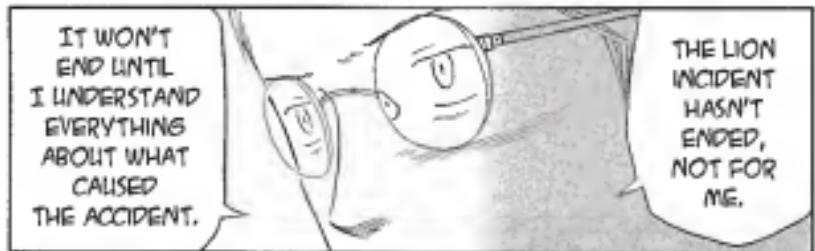
BOTH
YOU

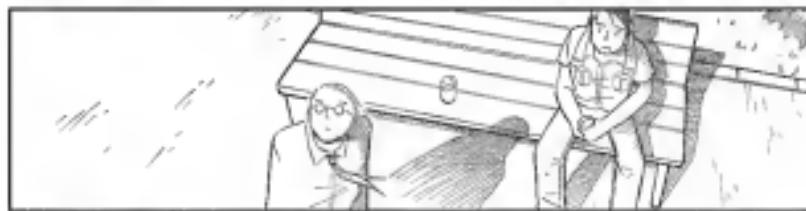


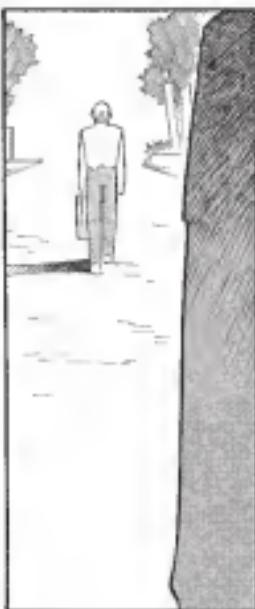
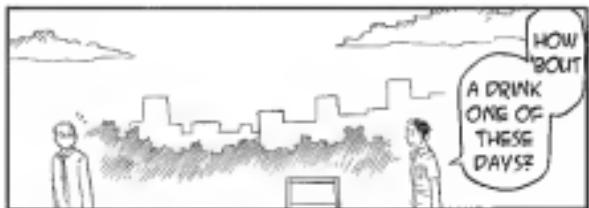


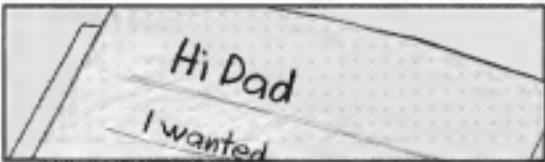
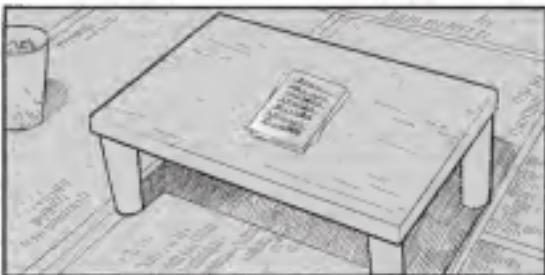












but I'm worried
about my friend
so I'm going
back to Tokyo
with her.

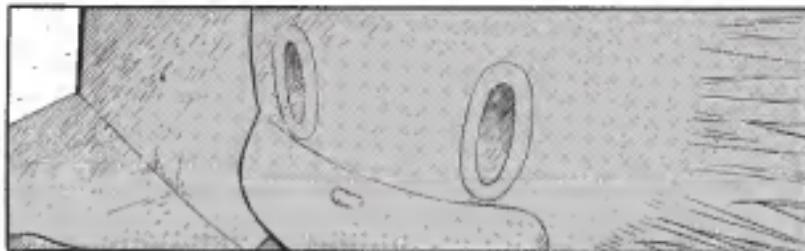
I wanted to stay
in Yuigahama
until you
came home.





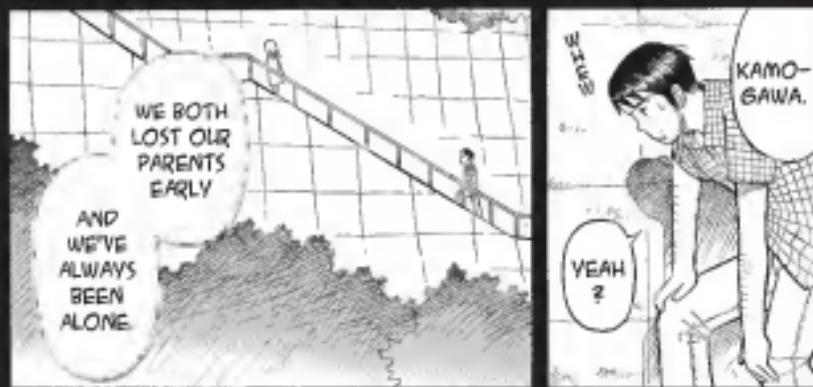


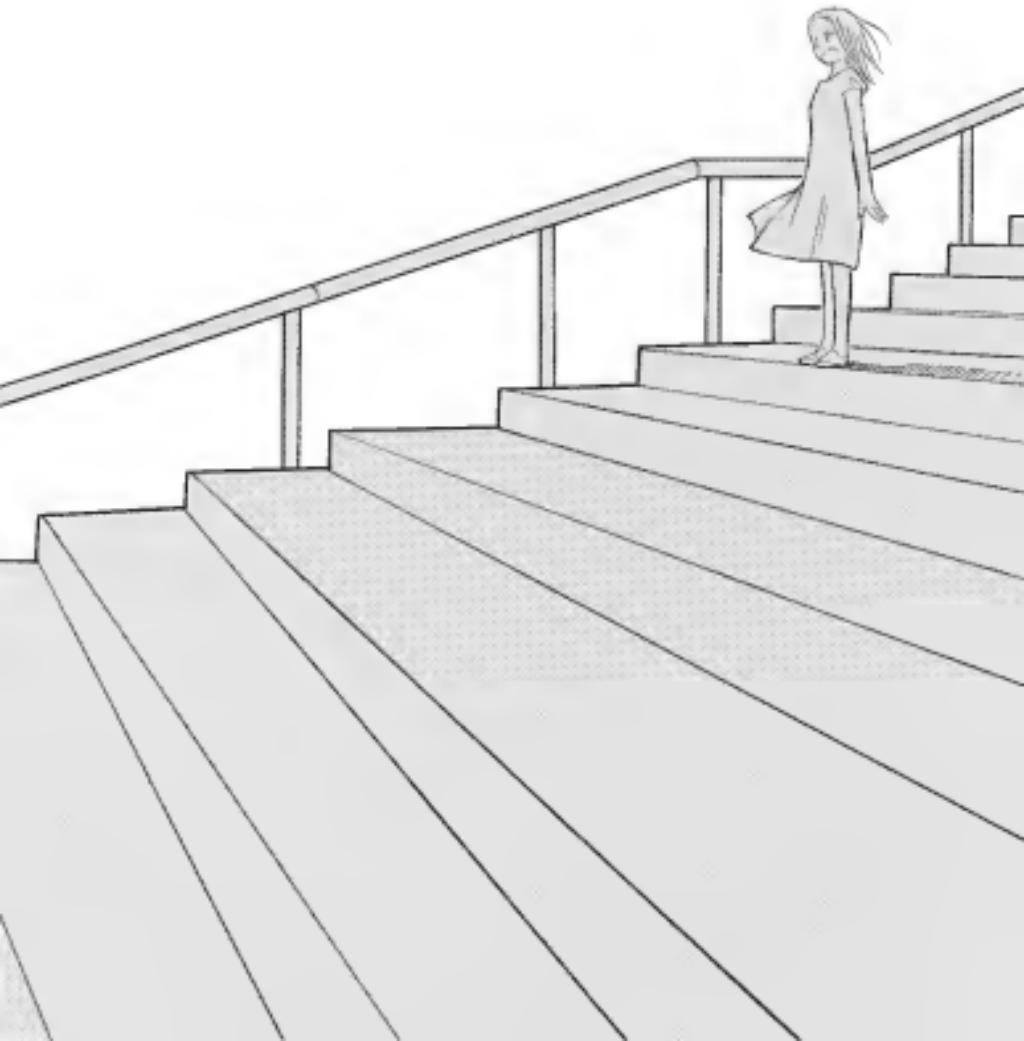






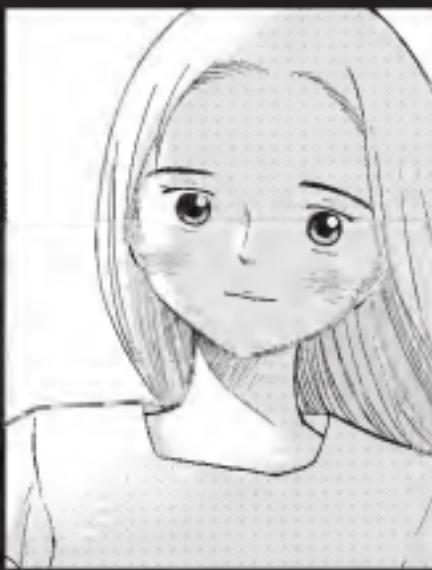


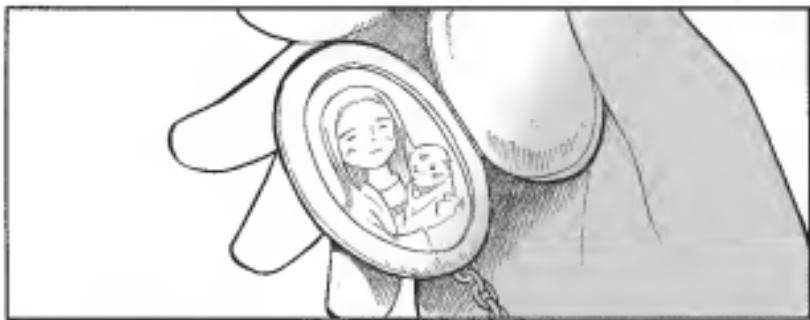


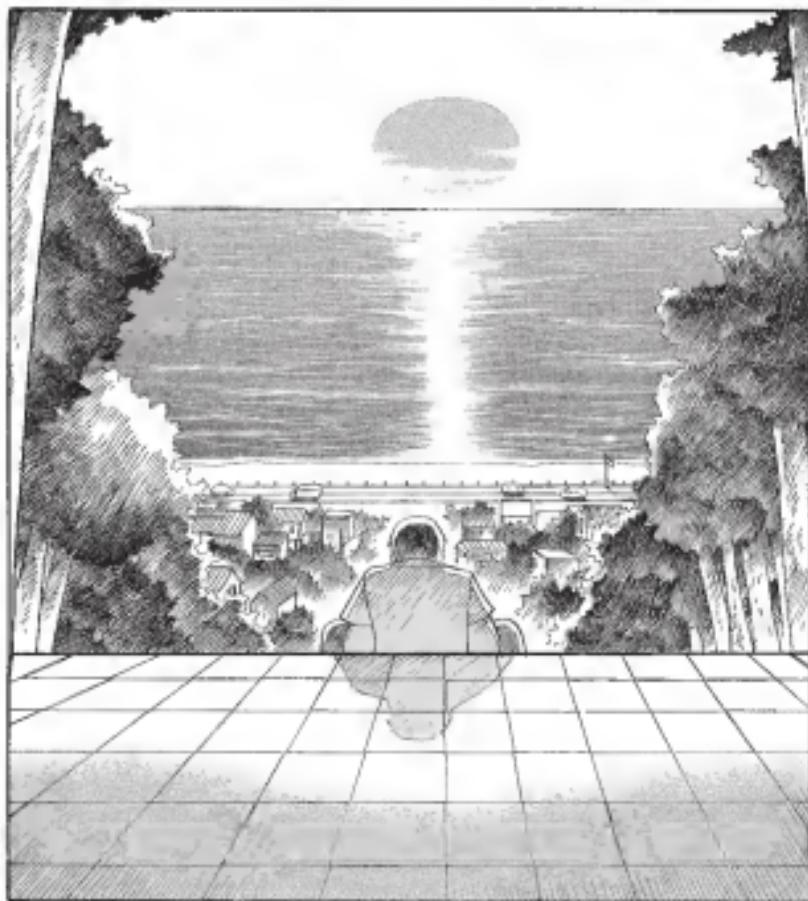




WE'LL
ALWAYS BE
TOGETHER,
WON'T WE
?







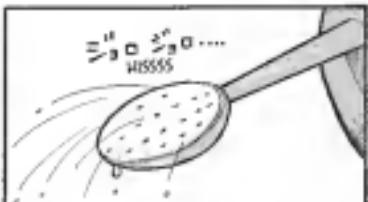




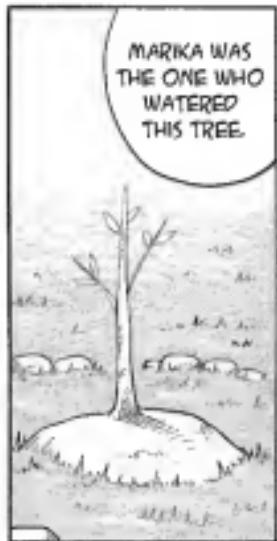
MISSION:34















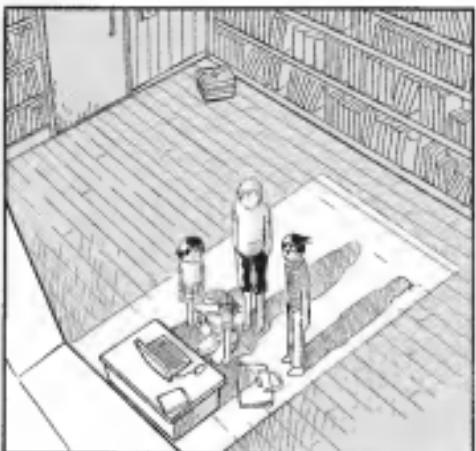
THE JAPAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HAS DISCREDITED HIS CLAIMS AND DENIED THAT THE CLONES EXIST.

HOWEVER, SINCE DR. BERNER HAS REFUSED TO RELEASE THE DETAILS,

ONE CLONE IS JAPANESE.

A SWISS DOCTOR, BRUNO BERNER, HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAS ALREADY CLONED 5 HUMANS.





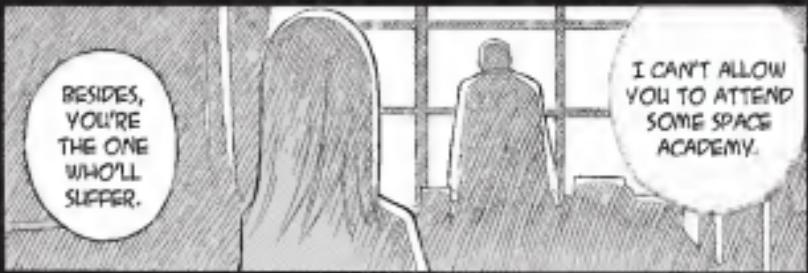














WANTED
TO RUN
AWAY

I
JUST

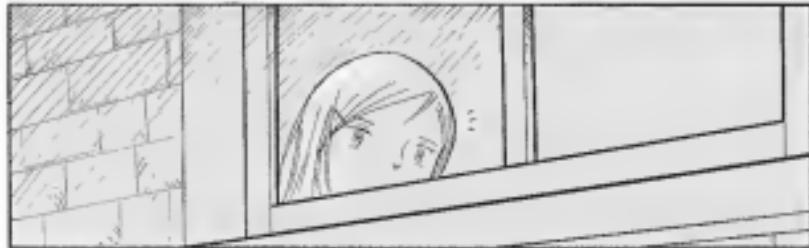
TO A PLACE
NO ONE
KNOWS, THE
FARTHEST PLACE
FROM HERE.

TO A
PLACE
FAR,
FAR AWAY.













PEOPLE
WHO ONLY
SEE THE ME
WHO'S
RIGHT HERE.

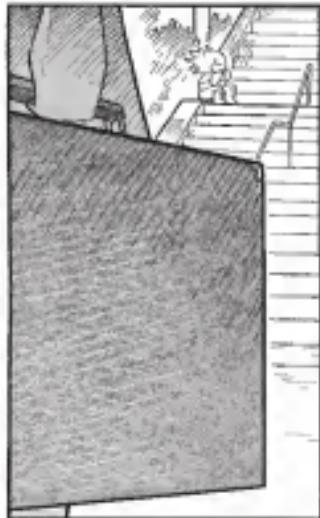
THAT
THERE
ARE
NOW

TO GO
TO SPACE
HAS WELLED UP
INSIDE ME
TOO.

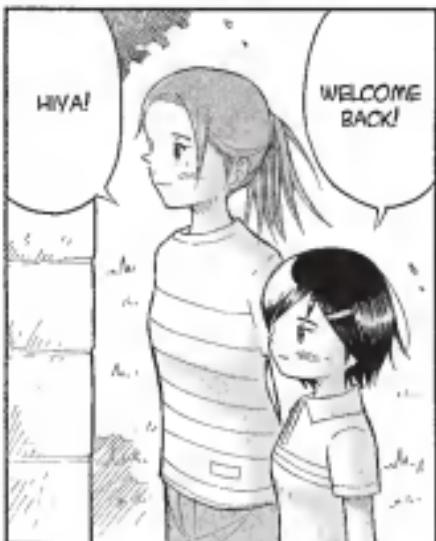
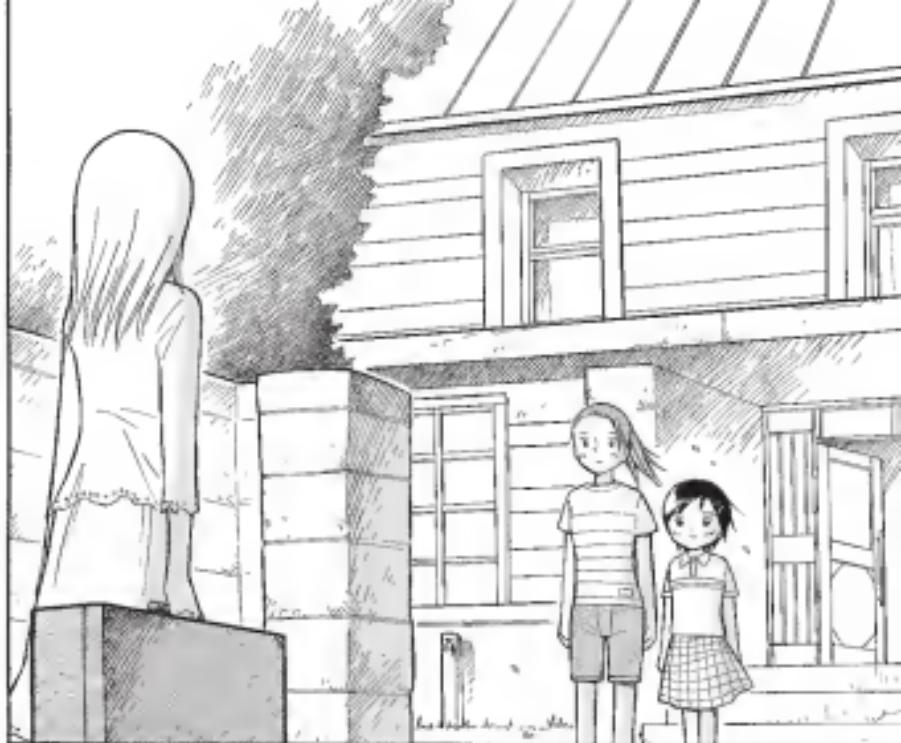
AND THAT
I DON'T
JUST WANT
TO FLY AWAY.
THAT A DREAM
DESIRE...

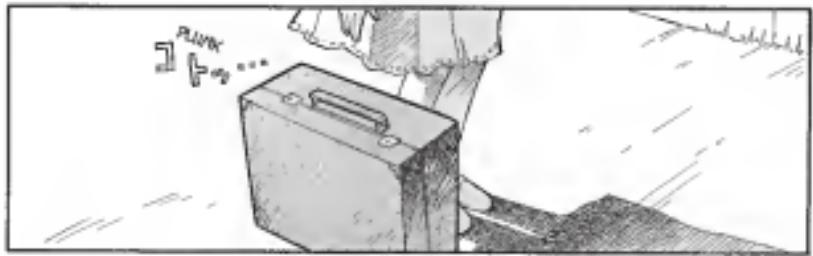
THAT
I'VE
STARTED
TO SHARE
THEIR
DREAM.

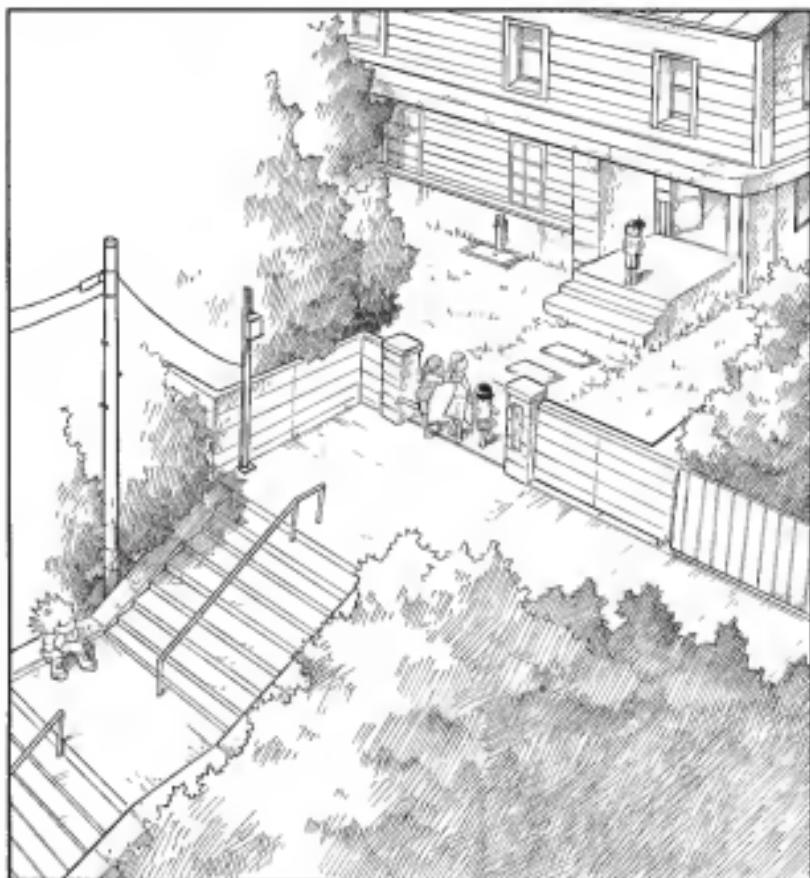


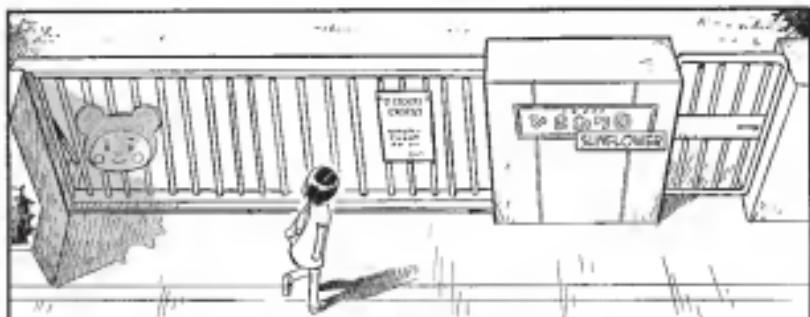










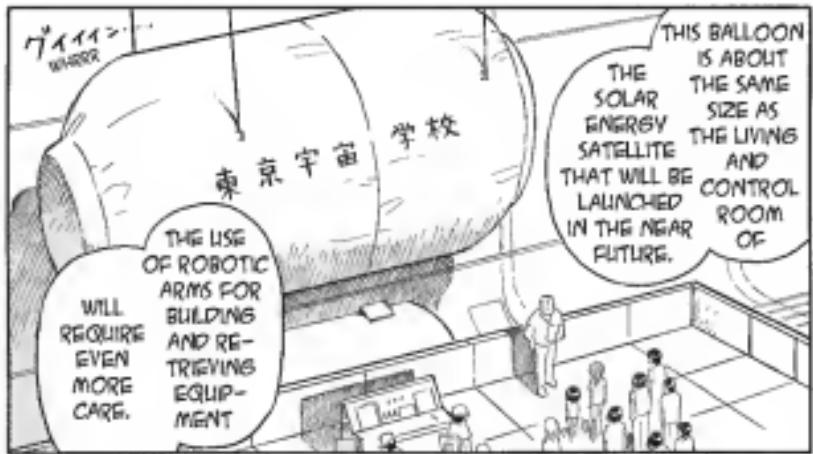


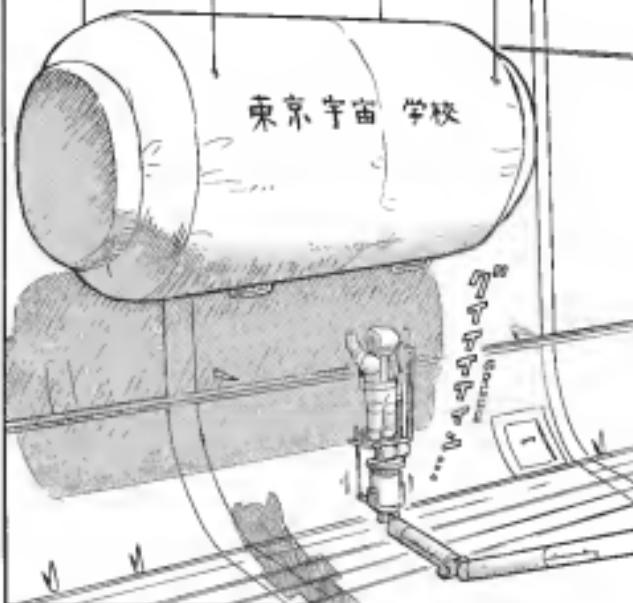


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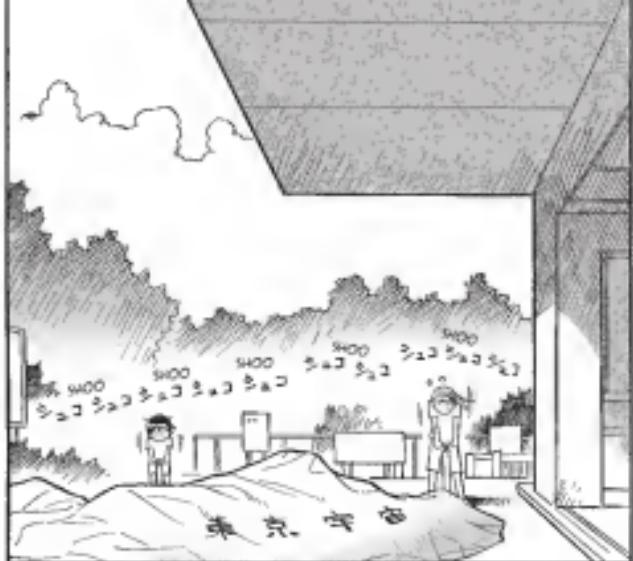










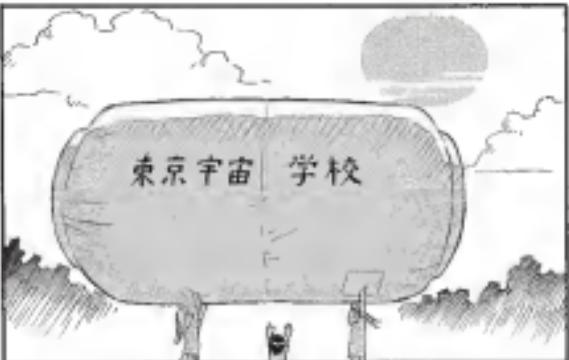






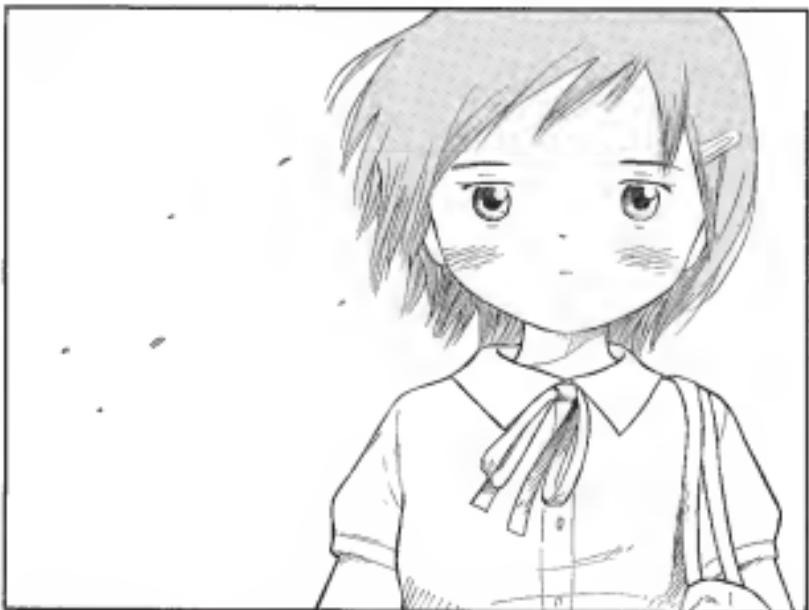








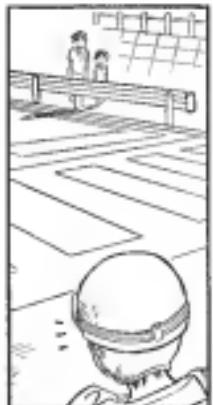






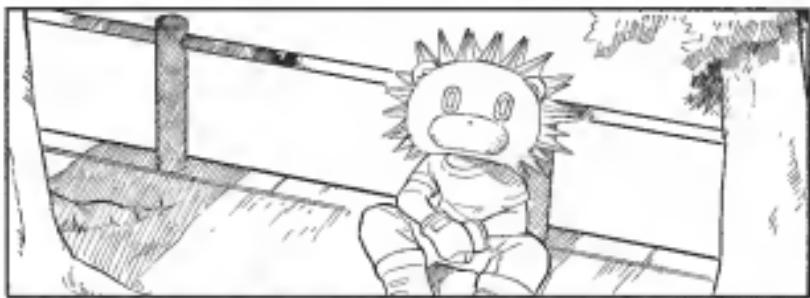








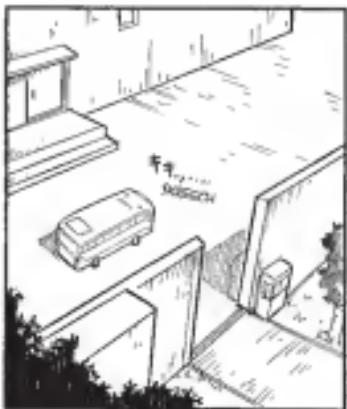












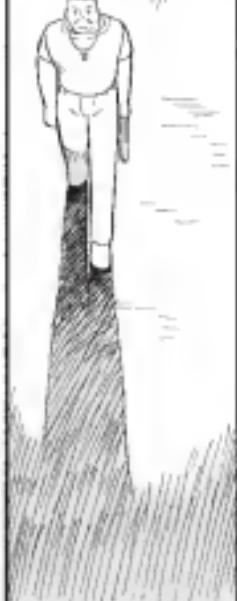
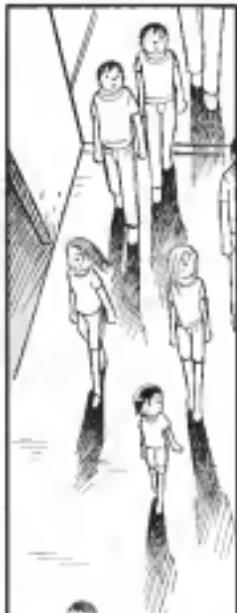






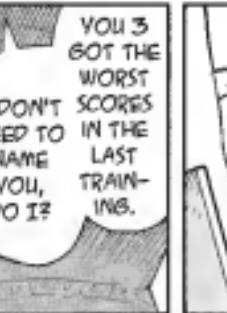


MISSION:36



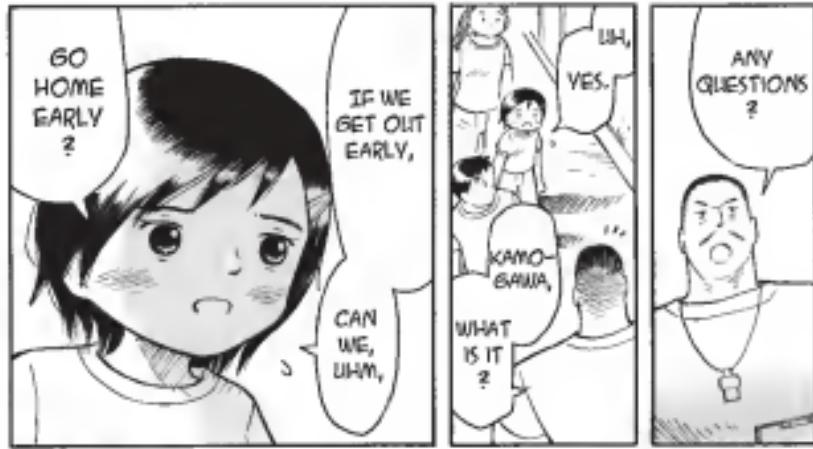






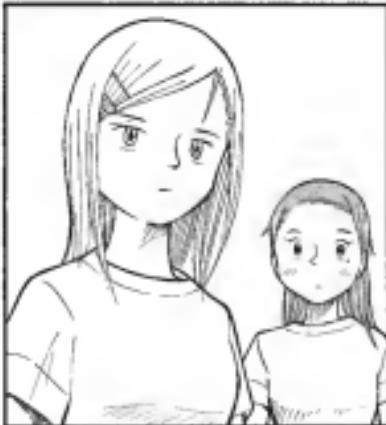








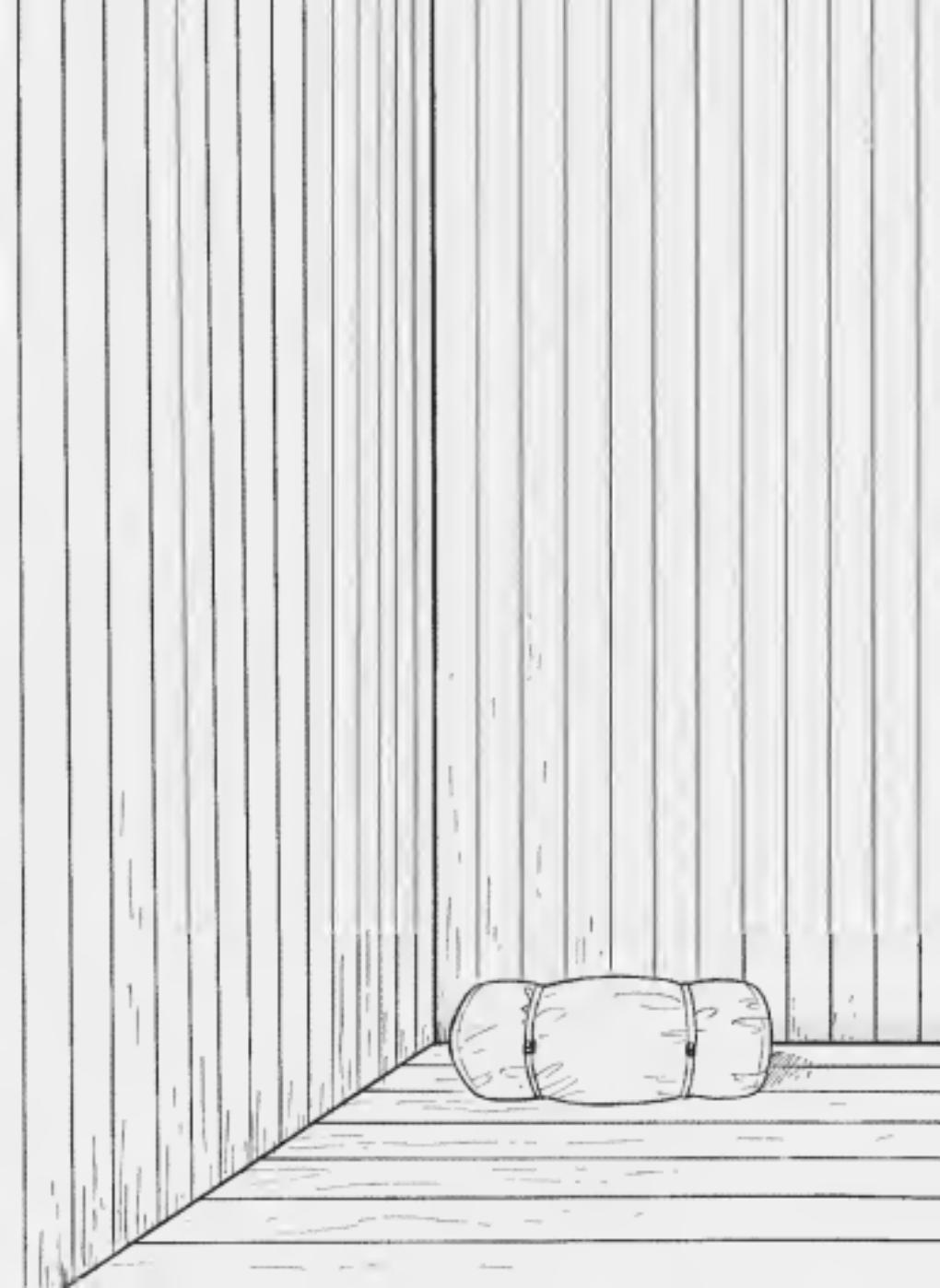






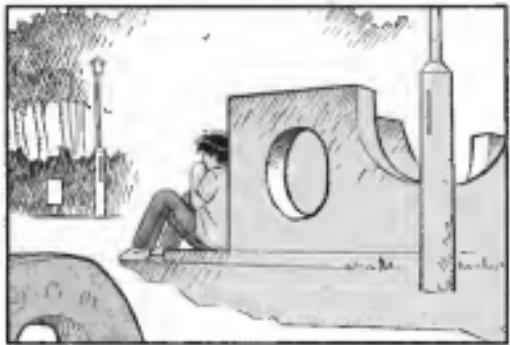


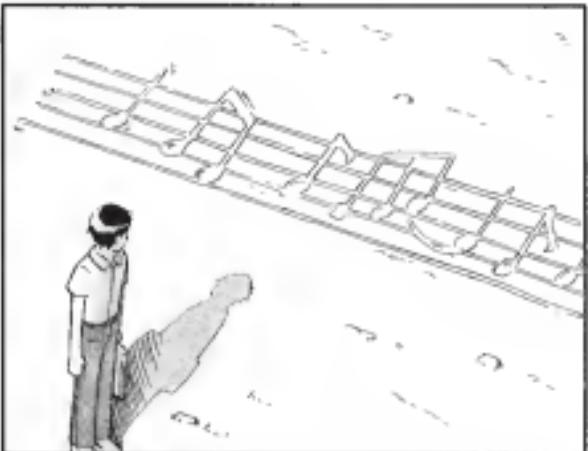














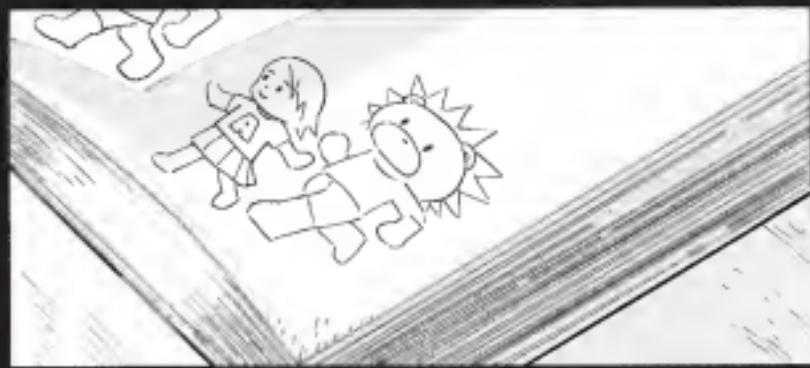
REALLY
GENTLE
SOUNDS.

BUT
YOU
MAKE









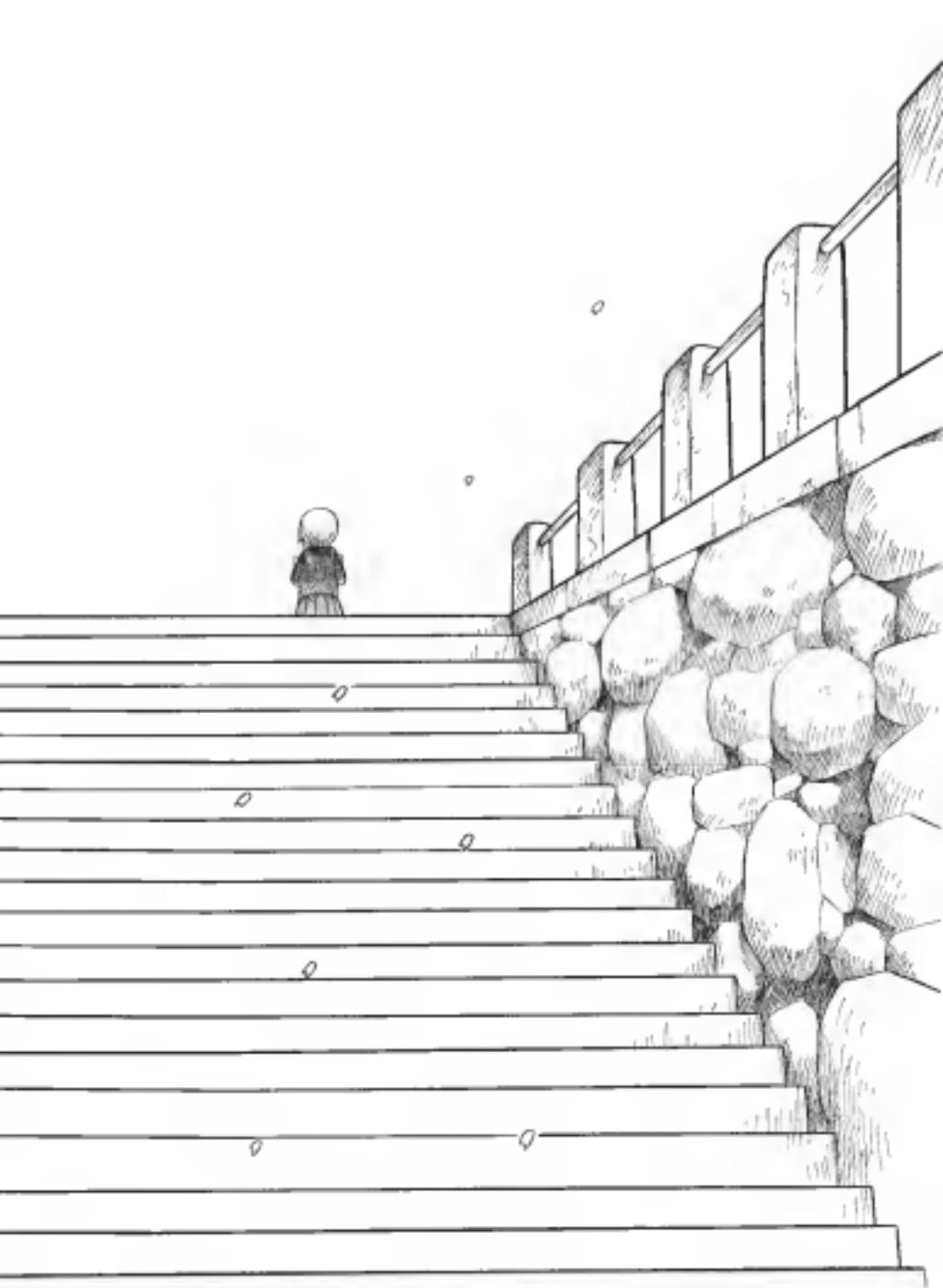


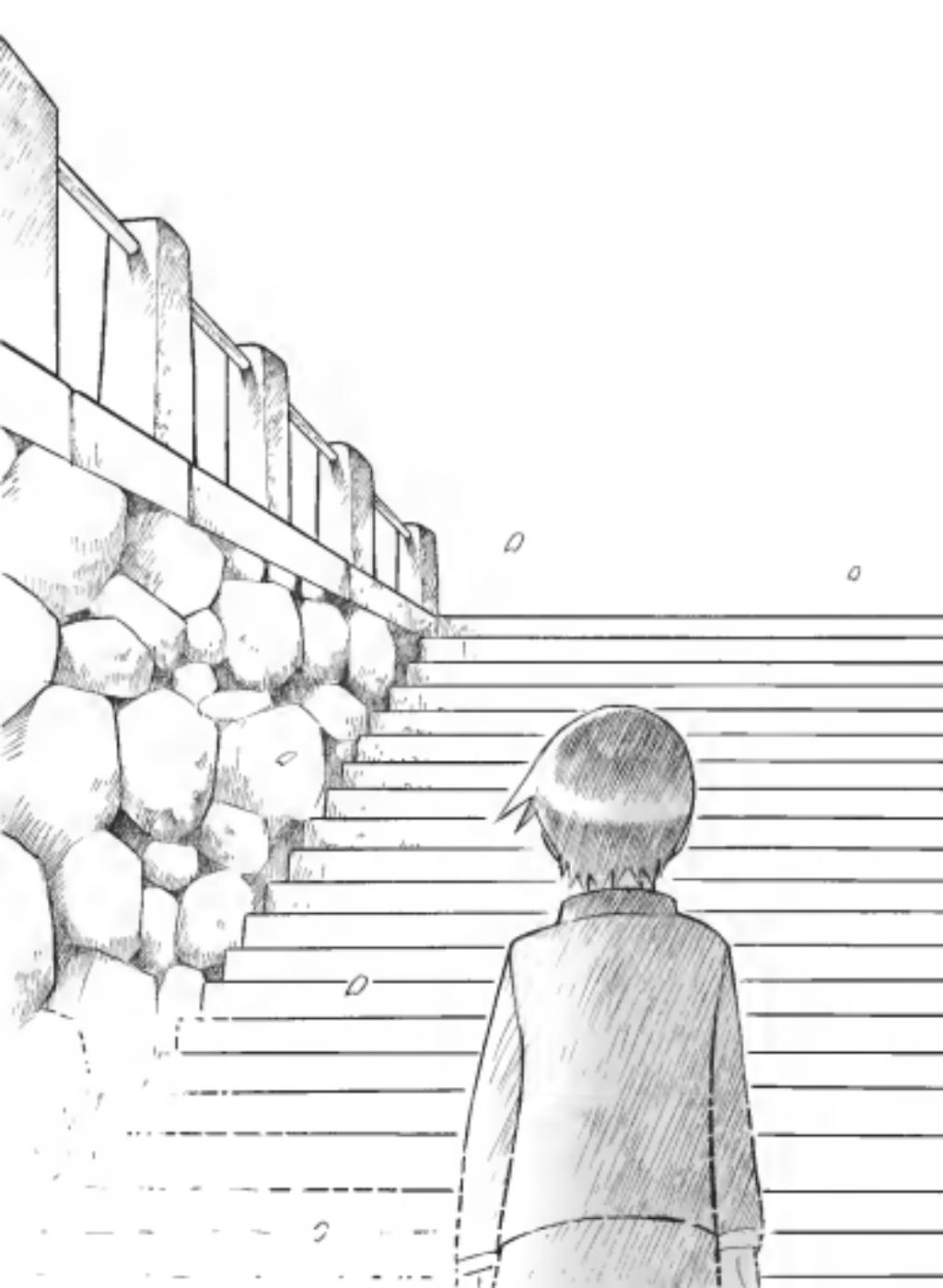
THE
"MR. LION"
THAT
KAMOSAWA
GOES ON
ABOUT

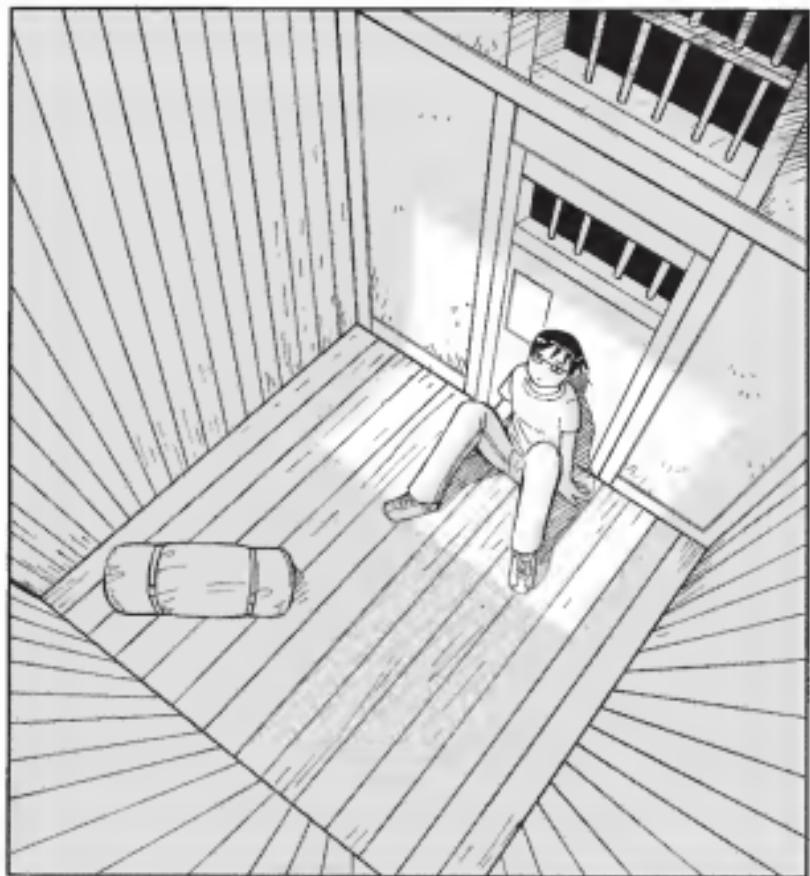
HE
COULD
SEE

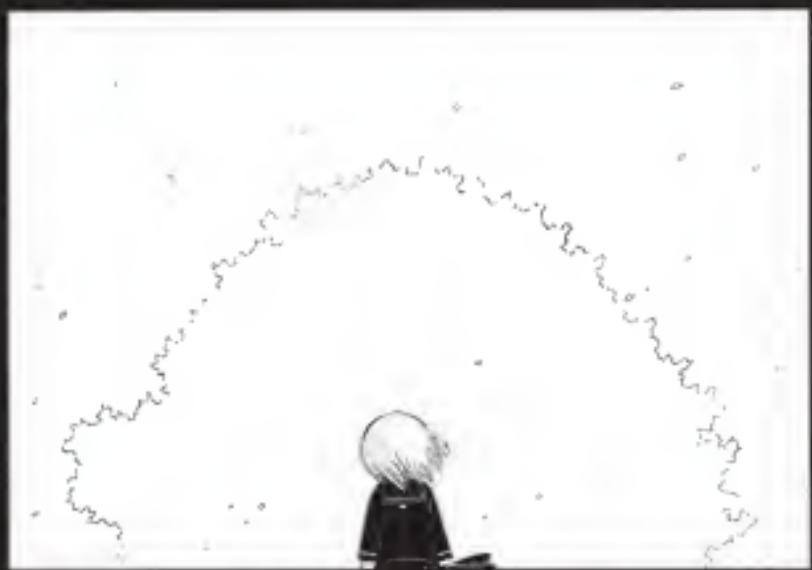
















BUT
EVERY TIME
IT'S THE
SAME
FEELING.

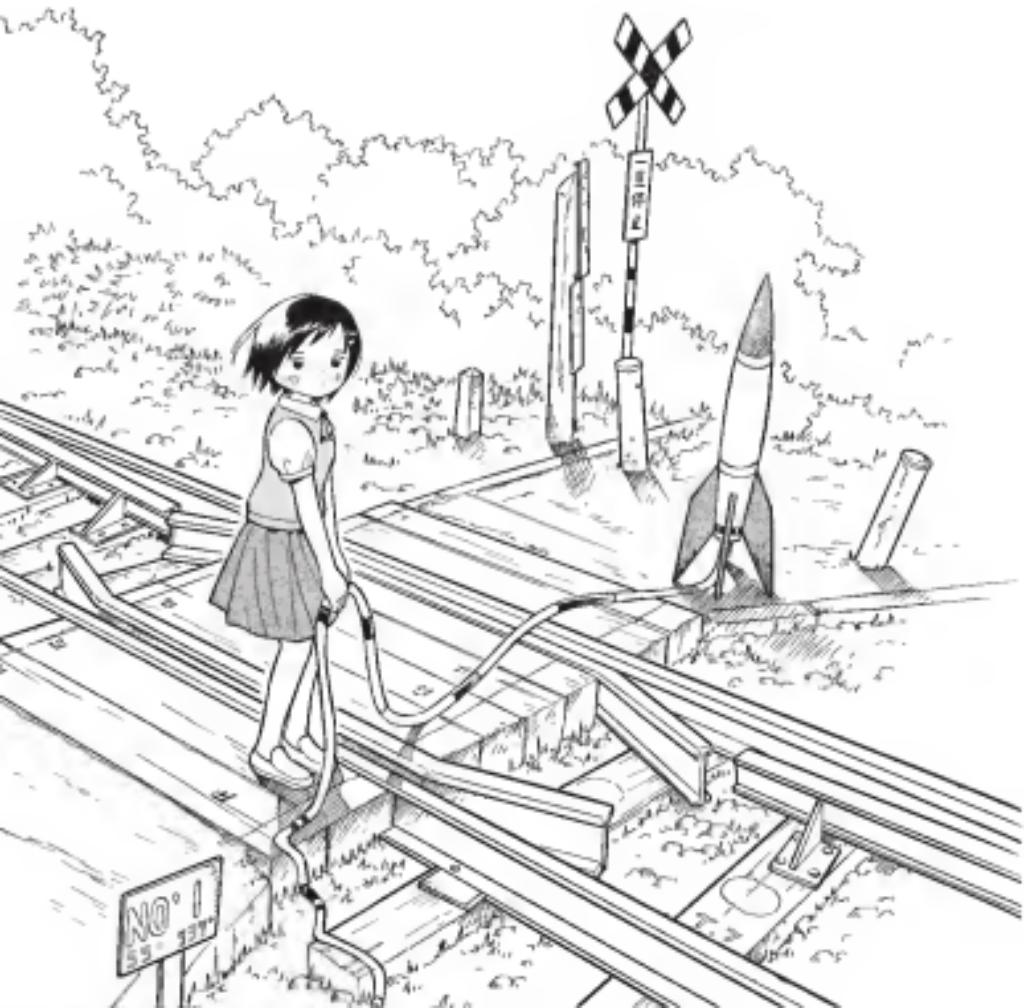
I'VE HAD
THE SAME
DREAM
SO MANY
TIMES,

YET
MY CHEST
FEELS
TIGHT.

IT'S
NOT
SAD.

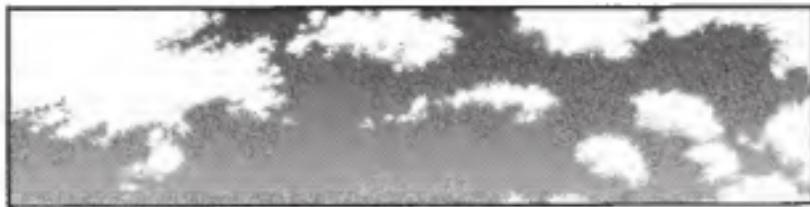


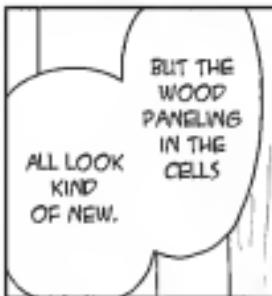
MISSION:37

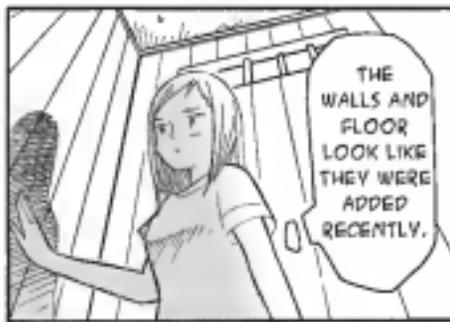
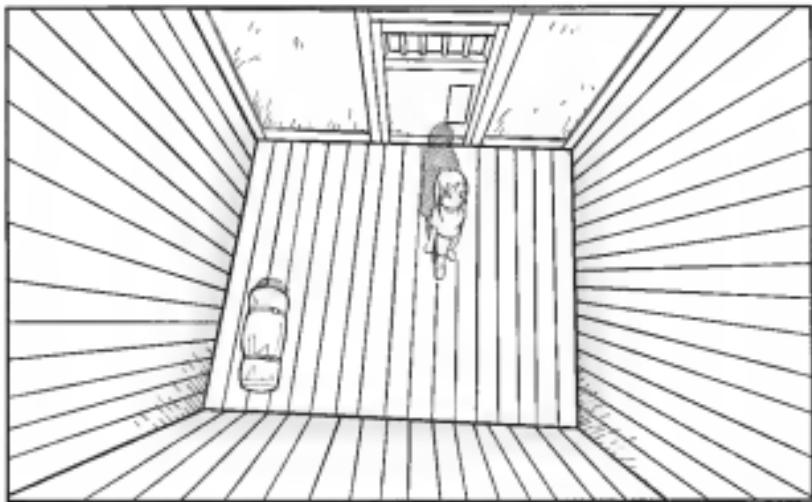












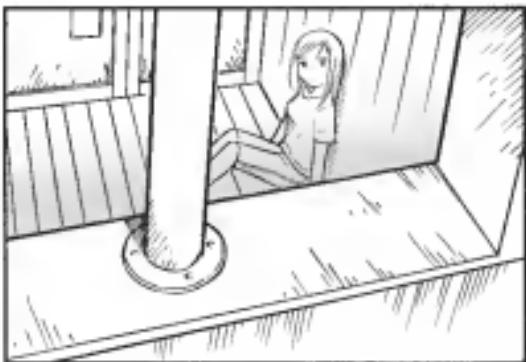
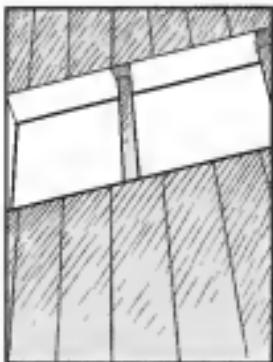
THE
WALLS AND
FLOOR
LOOK LIKE
THEY WERE
ADDED
RECENTLY.

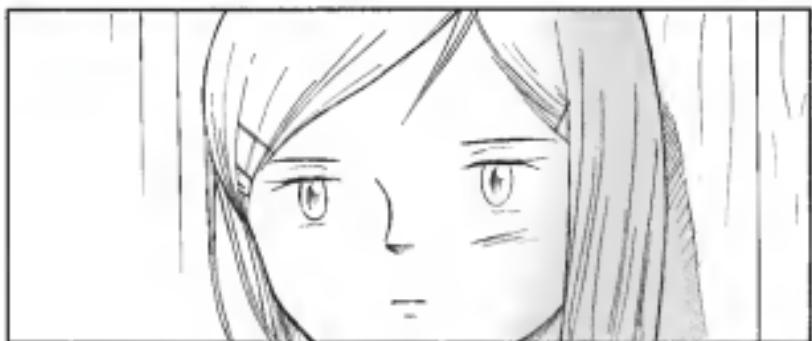


STILL,
NO
TOOLS,
EXCEPT
THIS.



MISS
KAMOGAWA
WAS RIGHT.





THIS IS
THE REAL
ME.



I'M ABLE
TO BELIEVE
I SEE
THE SAME
COLORS AS
EVERYONE
ELSE.

BUT I'M
NOT THE
SAME
AS
BEFORE.

I CAN
SEE

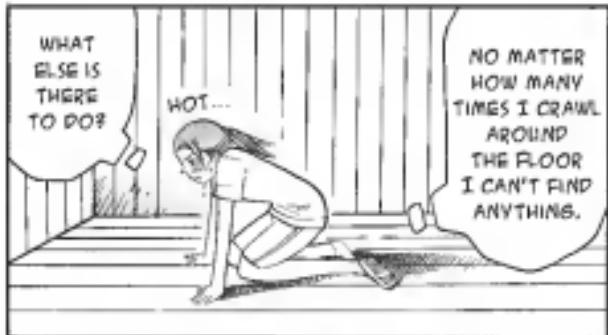
THE
EXPANSIVE
UNIVERSE
THAT
EVERYONE
ELSE SEES.

THE
CLOSED
OUTER
SPACE
I SAW
FROM
THAT
DARK
ROOM.

IT'S
DIFFERENT
FROM
THE
STARRY
SKY,

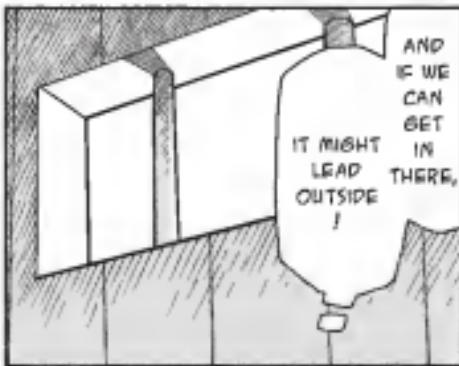


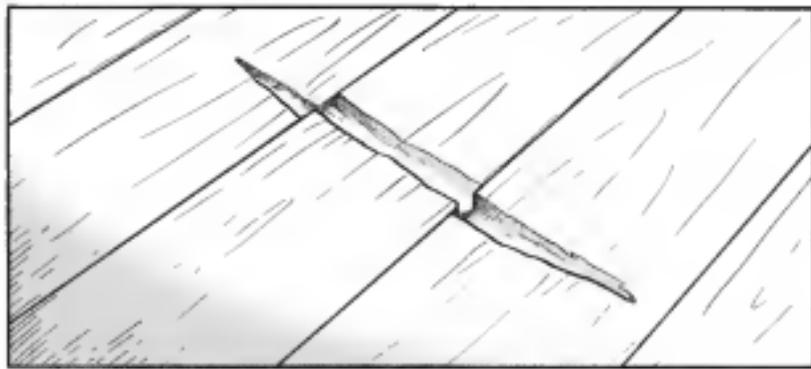


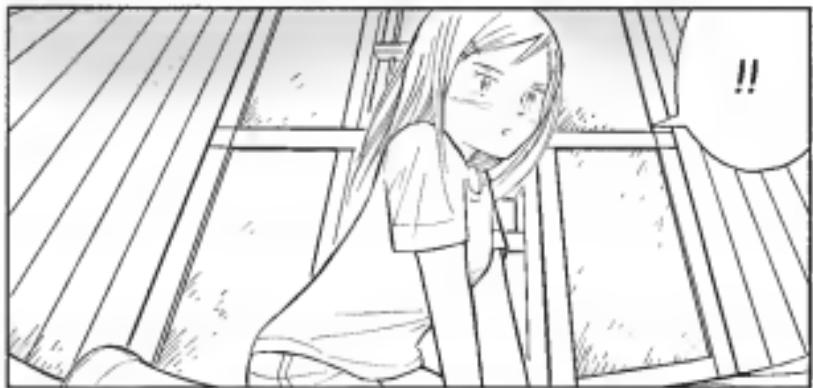












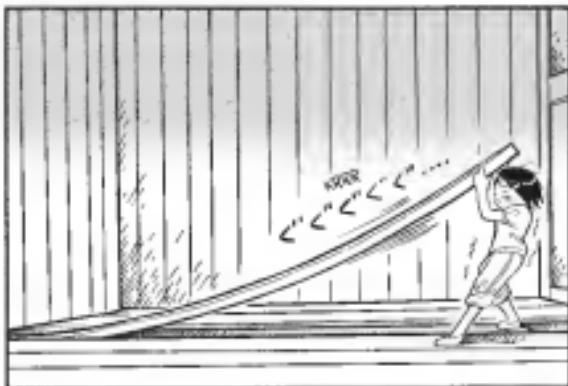


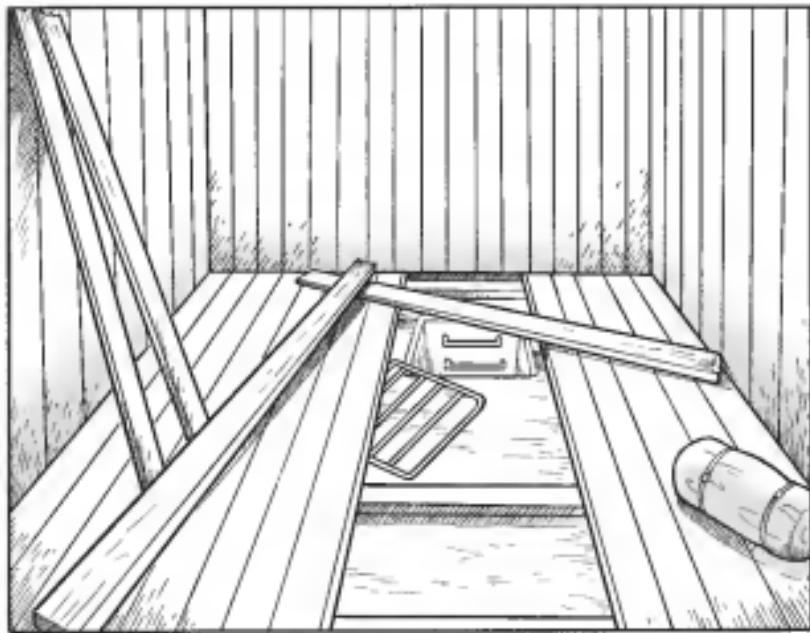
THEN USE THE
SPORK AS
A LEVER.
YOU MIGHT
BE ABLE TO
SNAP OFF
A FLOOR
BOARD.

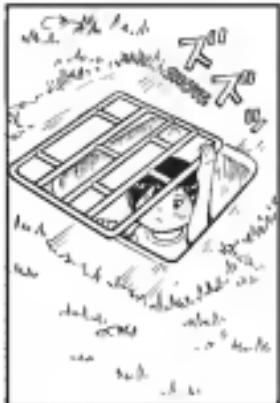
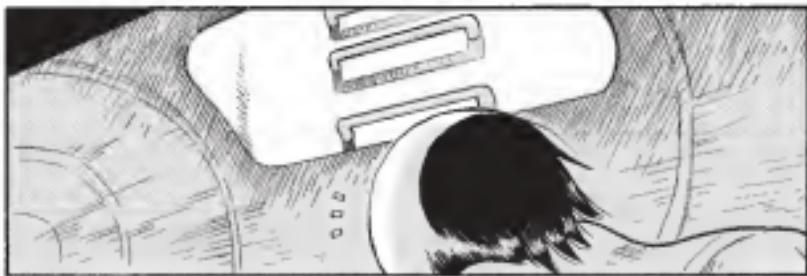
SCRAPE
DOWN
JUST
ENOUGH
FOR A
FULCRUM

MISS
KAMOGAWA,
MISS OUMI,
LISTEN.
YOU CAN
MOVE SOME
OF THE
FLOOR-
BOARDS
JUST A BIT.

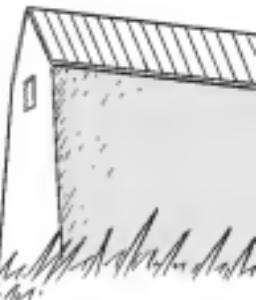
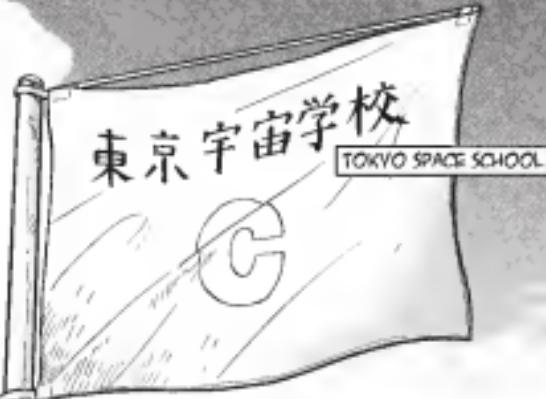








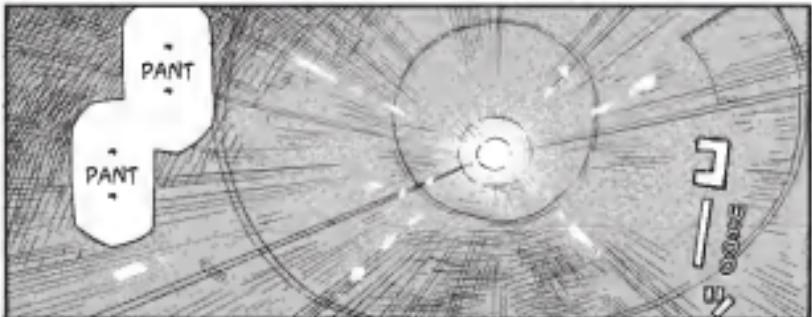








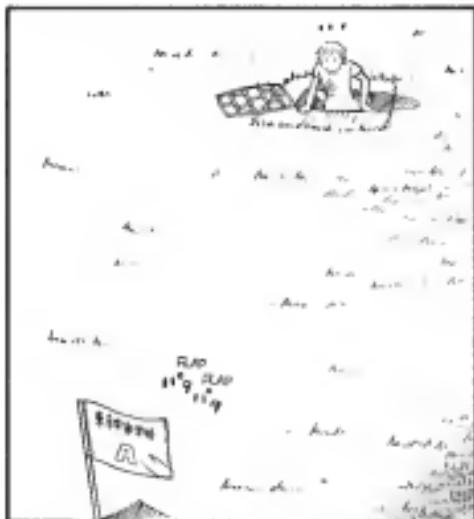








MISSION:38











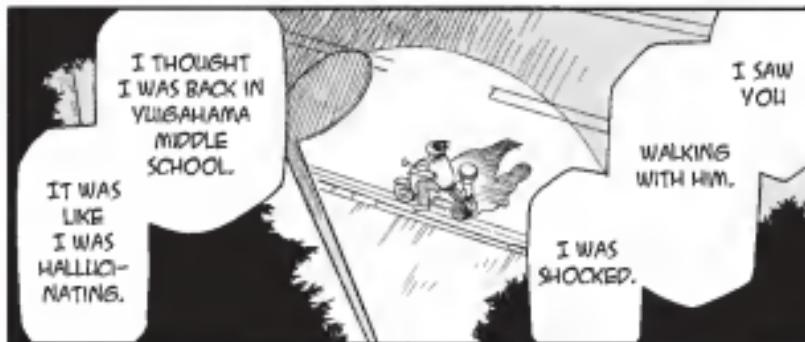
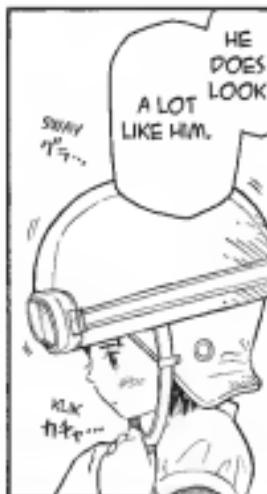














YOU
RUN AWAY
WHEN
THINGS
GET
INTENSE.



EVER
SINCE
YOU
WERE
A KID,

WHAT
A
HASSLE
IT WAS.

NO ONE
CAN
CATCH
UP.



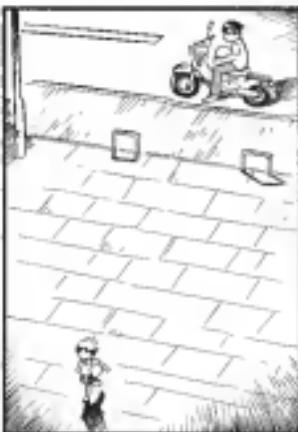
AND
SINCE
YOU'RE
FAST,

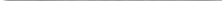
BUT

I
CAN'T
SAY IT
WELL,

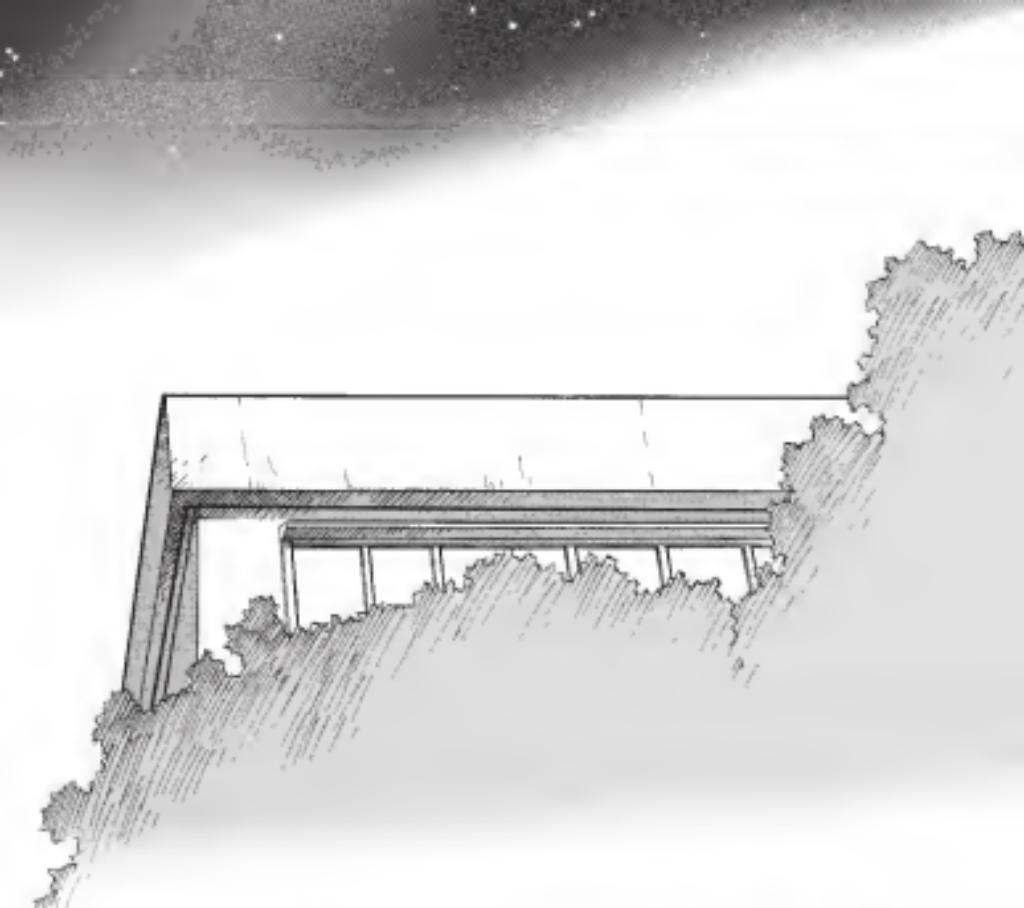
SO,
UHM.









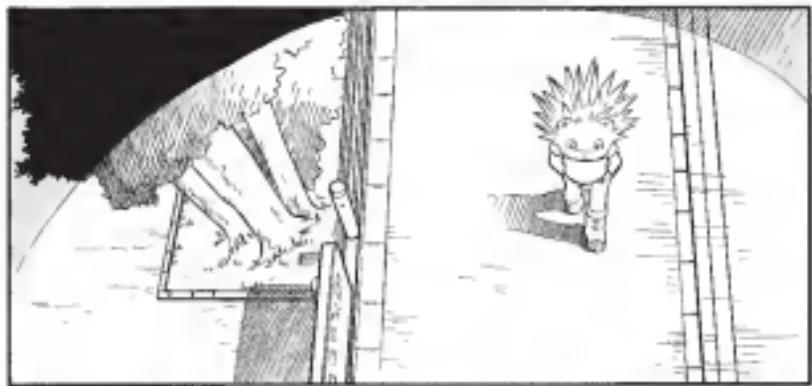




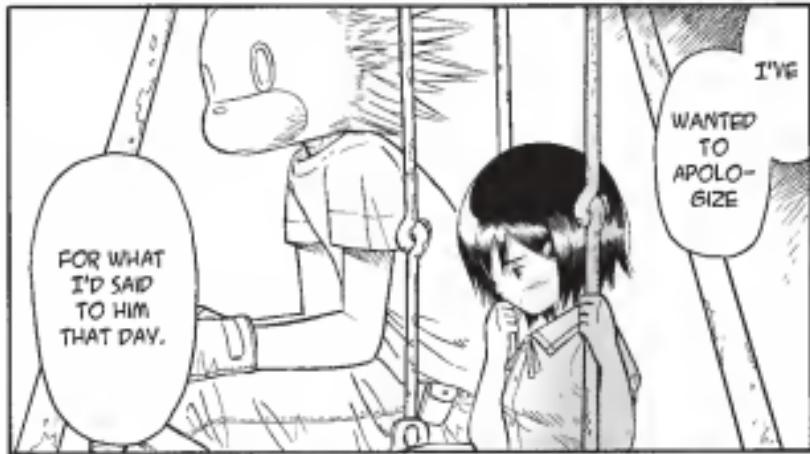








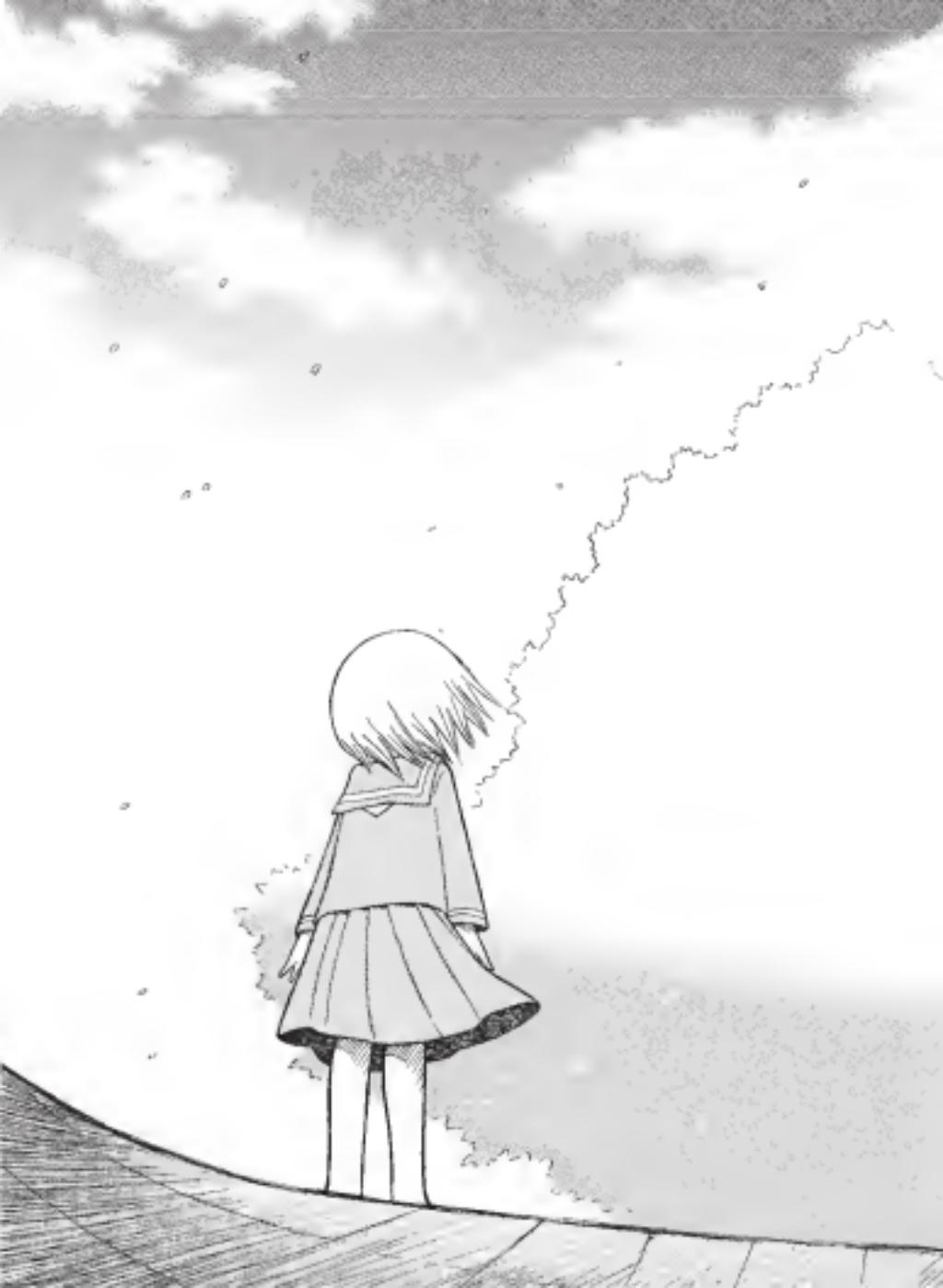






I'VE
ALWAYS,
ALWAYS

WANTED TO
SEE HIM.



PLAY
SOMETHING.

MR. LION,

I ONLY
HAVE
HAPPY
DREAMS.

WHILE I
LISTEN TO
YOUR
HARMONICA,



ANOTHER SPICA



KOU YAGINUMA

and, for that winter, egg salad on baguette and corn soup.



The menu: freshly squeezed orange juice for 360 yen, ham sandwiches,



I was still working at that theme park on the bay.



This was many winters ago.



WHY?
YOU DATING SOMEONE, FUJIWABA?!

I HAVE NOT PLANS.
WORKING CHRISTMAS EVE.



DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH YOU.

WORKING THROUGH ANOTHER CHRISTMAS.



No matter the season or how many new items we had, the place was always deserted.

THEY'RE LIGHTING THE TREE SOON.



PUNNO

A LONE? WHAT ABOUT KAMOMI?!

SHE'S A NEWBIE

I THINK YOU'LL BE WORKING ALONE.

THAT OK?

ORANGE

THE STOCK GIRL, SANGO?!

WHO IS SHE?!

VIP.

LH,

BB

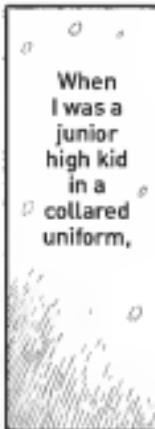
BB

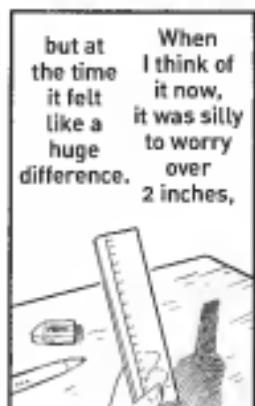
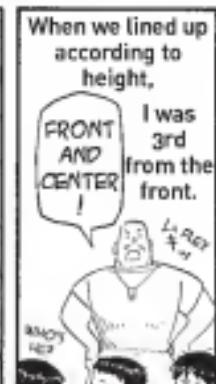
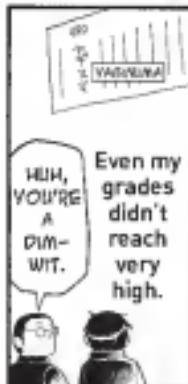
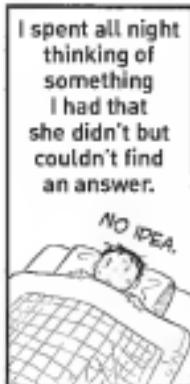
BB

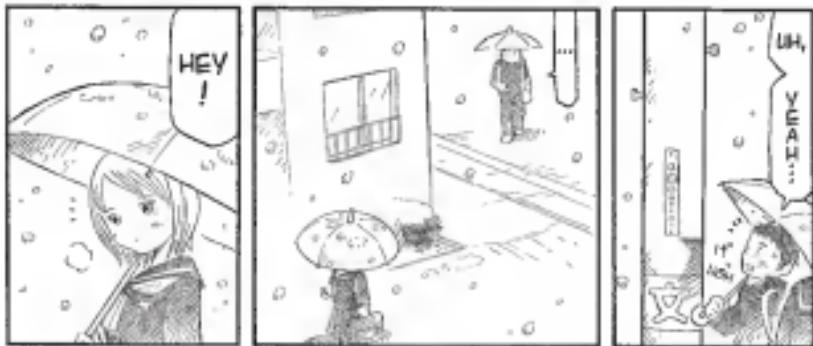
BB











our first
and last
conversation.



That was



THANKS!



I'd
waited
for her,

so
I could tell
her how
I felt.



Actually,

it wasn't
by chance.



over a
broken
heart.

It was
the
first time
I'd cried

REALLY
COLD



I sat on
the bank
in front
of my
house

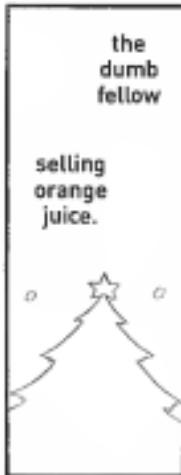
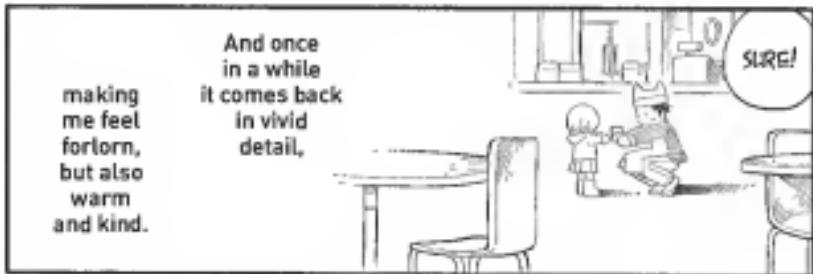
and
started
to cry.

IT'S
COLD



But
for
some
reason,

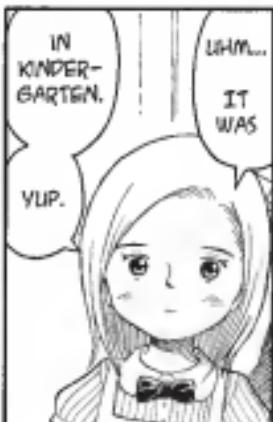
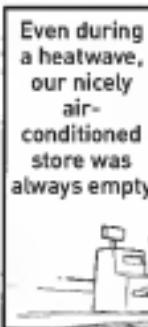
I
couldn't
do it
after all.

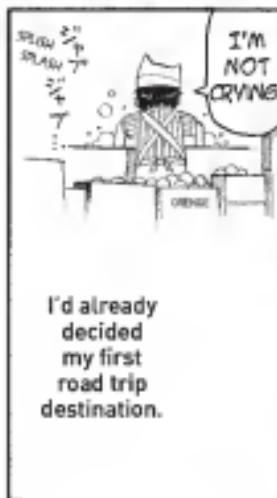


ANOTHER SPICA



KOU YAGINUMA





I wanted to see it in person.

The most memorable was an old train station.



My destinations were the locations used in a film that I liked.



On a glaring summer day

I rented a car and went for a drive.



THIS WAY!

The station I finally found



and spent 4 hours on the coastline with map in hand.



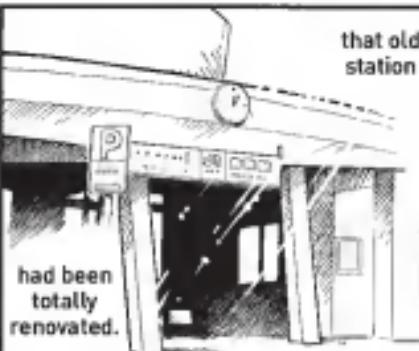
I got lost along the way

I know that quite well.

I knew it was just a selfish wish.



had been totally renovated.



that old station

I was
recalling
days
I could
never go
back to.



because



But still,
it made
me sad



to get
to talk
more.



I wanted
you
and me



a setting
in a film—
the first one
I'd ever
seen
with a girl.

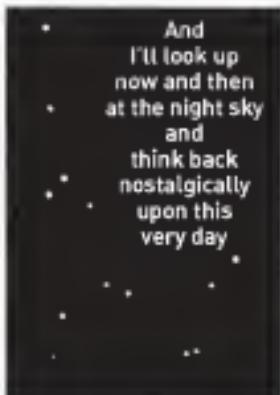


That
station
was



I wanted
you and me
to ride
on the
same
bike.





Notes on the Translation

P. 13

Asked by a newspaper why he wanted to scale Mt. Everest, the English mountaineer George Mallory (1886-1924) is reported to have answered, "Because it's there." While the exact terse phrasing may not have been Mallory's, his simple rationale has resonated with numerous explorers. A year after his immortal reply, he perished in an expedition on the world's tallest mountain's north face.



P. 14

"Ringo Shrine," too cute to be true, no doubt isn't. Though the second character has been substituted for another with the same phonetic reading, "ringo" means apple. Meanwhile, the first character, which means woods, is a common enough name for shrines.



P. 186

Mitaka, Kokubunji, and Ogikubo are all stations on the Chuo line west of Tokyo. Readers may recall that a string of student names in volume six were taken from stops on the Oume line.



Production - Hiroko Mizuno
Tomoe Tsubumi
Rina Nakayama

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